



FRESH CALL FOR 20MPH ZONES

Report by Sue Austin

FRESH calls have been made to impose blanket 20mph speed zones in residential areas of Oswestry.

The move comes after Shropshire Council announced plans to postpone community-led road safety schemes in a cost-cutting move.

At a meeting last week Oswestry Town Council agreed to write to the unitary authority to ask it to abandon the plans to postpone the schemes. Town Councillor Duncan Kerr this week said road safety measures did not need to be expensive – and suggested the time was now right to look at imposing 20mph zones in Oswestry. The council did agree to investigate a blanket 20mph limit for the town five years ago but the proposal never came to fruition.

Councillor Kerr said the idea should be looked at again. He said: "If Shropshire is looking to save money it does not need expensive traffic calming. Signs saying 20mph are a much cheaper way of slowing traffic down and do not give drivers licence to speed back up to 30mph once they have crossed the road bumps. We know 20mph zones save lives."



Councillor Kerr said there were several areas in Oswestry, such as Castle Street, where families had to step out of their homes onto a narrow roadside pavement.

He said: "Motorists getting to their destination a few minutes later is a small price to pay for people to be able to get out of their front doors, maybe with a buggy and small children, in safety."

Last week's town council meeting heard suggestions that areas such as Middleton Road, where traffic from proposed new housing developments will funnel into, Morda Road and Edward Street and also the Castle Street and Welsh Walls area would be ideal areas for the 20mph limit.

Meanwhile, it has been revealed that the village of St Martins near Oswestry could become a pilot project for a 20mph zone.

Shropshire Council portfolio holder for highways and transport Councillor Steve Davenport said work on a 20mph zone policy was ongoing and should go before cabinet by the end of the year. The councillor for St Martins said: "I don't agree that all urban areas should be 20mph zones, but I do believe it should be looked at on a case-by-case basis and that they should be implemented outside schools and hospitals."

● Postpone – See Page 3

New exhibition looks at two different cultures



Dobromira Bachvarova and Simona Kancheva outside Oswestry Museum where they have set up an exhibition

THEY may be hundreds of miles from each other but there are more similarities between England and Bulgaria than many might think.

Dobromira Bachvarova, 15, and Simona Kancheva, also 15, who moved from Bulgaria to Oswestry, are students at the town's Marches School and are part of the school's apprenticeship programme.

They are spending one day a week at the Oswestry Museum where they have completed an exhibition looking at the differences

and similarities between the two countries. Mark Hignett, from the museum, said: "The first thing they noticed was the price of chocolate. One particular bar that can be bought for £1 here in Oswestry apparently costs £6 in Bulgaria."

But he said there were also many similarities. "They have looked at social life, school uniforms, food and festivals," he added.

"There is a large Bulgarian community in the Oswestry area. We hope that they will come in and see the display and, in doing so,

will learn more about Oswestry." As well as Dobromira and Simona the museum recently welcomed four students from the Marches School for a week of work experience.

Mr Hignett said: "Rather than find jobs for them to do we ask them to research a project of their choice for the museum. We like them to take ownership of their work experience week. One looked at women in World War One and the others at Oswestry's medical institutions. Their work is in a special display cabinet and will remain there for 12 months."

TRANSPORT

Bus firm's depot deal secures over 50 jobs in town

A BUS company has signed a new lease on its depot in Oswestry – securing more than 50 jobs in the town.

Arriva Midlands has revealed that it has secured a new 20-year lease for its Salop Road depot, saying the deal reaffirmed its continued commitment to the people of Oswestry.

The company, which currently runs services across Oswestry, Wrexham, Ellesmere, Welshampton and Shrewsbury, has signed paperwork to safeguard its future as the area's largest bus operator and said the deal offered much needed stability within the local community.

With 55 members of staff already employed locally, Arriva has also revealed that it is recruiting new employees as part of its plans to grow and strengthen its driving team.

The bus depot had been up for sale. Jamie Crowsley, general manager for Arriva Shropshire, said: "We are dedicated to growing and improving services running from our Oswestry depot, and this new lease clearly signals that we are steadfast in our promise to continue developing our local network."

"The employment opportunities this provides locally only reinforces our commitment to helping Oswestry thrive."

EDUCATION

Work is started on school building

WORK on Welshpool's new English-medium Church in Wales School is under way.

Contractors moved onto the site adjacent to the town's high school in Salop Road on Monday to start enabling works for the 360-pupil school, which is scheduled to open in September next year.

Plans for the school were approved by the county council earlier this summer and last week the council's cabinet approved increased funding allocation for the project.

INSIDE

A rally nice day out for everyone!



PAGE 20



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Associate Editor: Iain St John:
01691 668094
news@oswestrychronicle.co.uk
Reporter: Sue Austin: 01691 668099
sue.austin@shropshirestar.co.uk
Reporter: Jonny Drury 01691 668098
jonny.drury@shropshirestar.co.uk
Sport: Dave Cooper: 01952 241475
dave.cooper@shropshirestar.co.uk
Photographic: 01691 668094
Regional advertising sales manager:
Alison Jukes: 01743 283330
alison.jukes@shropshirestar.co.uk
Advertising supervisor:
Beverley Thompson: 01691 668092
beverley.thompson@shropshirestar.co.uk
Sales representatives:
Connor Harris: 01691 668090
connor.harris@shropshirestar.co.uk
Gary Tsang: 01691 668091
gary.tsang@shropshirestar.co.uk
Distribution: 01902 319537
p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

14 Salop Road, Oswestry
SY11 2NU
www.oswestrychronicle.com

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Authority admits failures were made over club grant

Report by Aimee Jones

SHROPSHIRE Council has admitted mistakes were made over an £80,000 grant paid to The New Saints Football Club.

The Oswestry-based club was given the money from the Market Town Revitalisation Programme six years ago, but only repaid £10,000.

An audit report has revealed the money was not recovered "due to officers leaving the council".

A council spokeswoman said: "The council took steps to recover funds within the terms of the grant agreement, but this was not properly followed through."

"Some of this can be explained by multiple handover of the project due to officers leaving the council, but overall management of this has not been satisfactory and does not meet our usual and expected standards. However, such internal matters do not affect the council's rights to enforce the terms of the grant agreement, which it is in the process of doing."

The council also said a number of officers involved with the project have since left the council and it is therefore unable to determine who the failure is attributable to. The club, which has always maintained it met the agreement, was granted £80,000 to install new seats to allow it to compete in European matches. A total of £16,000 a year was supposed to be paid to the Oswestry Economic Board to benefit the town, but the group disbanded.

Shropshire Council is now seeking to recover the money in line with the terms of the grant agreement.

Following the statement from the council in which it admitted mistakes were made, the owner of The New Saints Football Club said on Twitter Shropshire Council should apologise for the damage it has done to his club's reputation.

Mike Harris said: "I think TNS FC should be receiving an apology. By definition a grant is a grant and not repayable if its terms are met. This was not a loan."

"The investigation panel never gained all the facts, never came to our offices for copies of the council staff's emails."

Woman taken to hospital after junction crash



The collision at the Maesbury Road junction on Monday which saw an elderly woman taken to hospital. Photo by @Oscops

AN elderly woman was taken to hospital following a crash at a junction which has just undergone five months of safety improvements.

Emergency services were called to the Maesbury Road junction with the A483 on the outskirts of Oswestry just after 5pm on Monday evening.

Two cars were involved in the crash and there were four patients, one of which was taken to the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital.

A spokeswoman for West Midlands Am-

bulance Service said: "Two ambulances attended and treated an elderly woman for neck and chest pain."

"She was given pain relief at the scene and taken to hospital."

Two fire crews from Shrewsbury also attended to make the vehicles safe.

It comes after months of roadworks to improve the safety of the junction following a string of accidents, some fatal.

Highways England senior project manager, Jessica Kenny, said: "We know that

this is a busy route for holidaymakers and local residents and I'm pleased to say that traffic is now able to use the A483 at Maesbury Road and Mile End roundabout in time for the school summer holidays."

She also thanked motorists, who faced lengthy delays during the works, for their patience.

"The work there will help improve traffic flows around these busy junctions, giving motorists safer and smoother journeys for many years to come," she added.

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Residents could police new 20mph speed zones

NEIGHBOURHOODS could police 20mph zones if they are introduced in all new Shropshire housing estates.

Councillor Steve Davenport, portfolio holder for highways and transport, said he hopes residents will take up the enforcement role.

The unitary authority outlined its view that, where appropriate, it should advocate the speed limit in any new residential developments back in February. It follows the national 20s Plenty campaign aimed at slowing down drivers and keeping roads safe. Councillor Davenport said work on the policy is ongoing and should go before cabinet before the end of the year. He said: "The police most likely won't enforce it so it would be great if it was enforced through a neighbourhood watch-type scheme with residents monitoring it and owning it."

"In reality you can't really do more than 20mph on a housing estate anyway, but it would enforce the fact that those areas are child safety zones and remind motorists that a 20mph speed limit is being enforced."

Councillor Davenport revealed that he plans to use his own area of St Martins near Oswestry as a test case. He said: "I have been asked numerous times to look at introducing a 20mph speed limit on the Overton Road and we are discussing it with businesses and villagers about what they think and whether it is a good idea."

Welsh language call by councillor

A COUNCILLOR has called on a local authority to do more to contribute towards a vision of having a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

Councillor Elwyn Vaughan spoke during a full Powys County Council meeting, stating that the council needed to contribute to the Welsh Government's project to promote the Welsh language.

Plan to postpone road schemes is criticised

Report by Sue Austin

THE potential postponing of road safety improvements has been sharply criticised by a town council.

Oswestry Town Councillors say schemes should take place before, not after, people are injured or killed on the roads.

In a letter to Shropshire Council, Oswestry Town Council said it is not acceptable to wait for an accident to happen.

Town and parish councils across the county have been written to by Shropshire Council's highways department warning that the schemes could be put on hold.

The authority has said the community-led road safety scheme currently in the roads programme for the coming two years from town and parish councils will be put on hold until at least the review of budgets in 2020 if proposals to address a budget deficit are approved.

Shropshire Council's highways and transport capital budget is to be reduced by £5 million in each of the next two financial years. Money will still be available for work funded by money from the Department of Transport for accident clusters and high priority sites, the letter says.

At the latest Oswestry Town Council meeting councillors agreed to write to Shropshire Council to ask if all of the existing list of planned work is being suspended.

The letter states: "It is not acceptable to wait for an accident to happen to enable a scheme to be put in the work programme. The priority should be the potential for the accident to happen, rather than wait for it to occur."

Councillor Duncan Kerr said the town had put forward a long list of schemes that should be included in the budget for safety improvements. He said: "I understand Shropshire Council has budget problems but it is unfortunate that somebody has to suffer an accident before improvements can be made." He said safety schemes had been suggested for areas including Morda Road, Edward Street, Welsh Walls and several in eastern Oswestry.

Store in town was target of ram raiders



The damage to the shutters could be clearly seen on Monday morning

THE Co-op in Chirk near Oswestry was targeted in a ram raid, leading to the store being cordoned off as police investigated the incident.

A Skoda Yeti car stolen in Llangollen last week reversed into the shutters of the store on Holyhead Road just before 2.30am on Monday.

Three suspects got out of the vehicle and went into the store but left soon afterwards.

Inspector Steve Owens said on Monday: "The offenders used a ve-

hicle that had been stolen in Llangollen on July 18.

"They left the scene within minutes and headed towards Llangollen."

"The scene is now being managed by officers and crime scene investigators have attended."

Police forensic teams were at the store on Monday morning and officers are also believed to be studying local CCTV camera footage.

Extensive damage to the roller

shutters at the front of the shop was caused.

Staff standing outside the store on Monday waiting for police to finish their initial investigation did not want to comment. Security lock experts were also on standby on Monday to mend the broken shutters and smashed window.

Anyone with information should contact police at north-wales.police.uk/contact/chat-support quoting reference W102351.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Work of panto group recognised

A PARISH council handed out an award to the latest recipient of its community award.

Oswestry Rural Parish Council's community award is given out to those who have made a significant contribution to benefit their local community.

This year the parish council award has gone to Rhydygroesau Pantomime Group.

The group was chosen by the council in recognition for its long standing fundraising in the local area.

The award was made at a recent parish council meeting by Shane and Alison Parr of Stonehouse Brewery, who sponsor the award.

Inquest opened on man's death

AN inquest has been opened by a coroner into the death of a man who was found in Oswestry after being missing for days.

The body of Gareth Wyn Stephens, aged 41, was found on May 19 in a wooded area between Back Racecourse Lane and High Fawr in Oswestry.

Mr Stephen had last been seen on May 16.

The inquest at Shirehall in Shrewsbury heard on Tuesday that paramedics attended and confirmed the death of Mr Stephens at 6.10pm on May 19.

Mr Stephens, from Gobowen near Oswestry, was a tree surgeon and a married man.

The inquest was adjourned until October 24 at Shirehall.

House prices creep to £208k average

HOUSE prices across the region increased in May, new figures have revealed.

Prices in Shropshire crept up by 0.6 per cent in May, contributing to a three per cent rise over the last 12 months, with the average property sold for almost £208,000.

Elsewhere, house prices in Telford and Wrekin rose by 0.9 per cent, contributing to a 4.3 per cent rise over the last year. In Powys, prices increased by 1.7 per cent.

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Brave – Amey Hogan

Bike accident video is internet hit

A VIDEO made by a brave 11-year-old girl urging cyclists to always wear a helmet has become a huge internet hit.

Amey Hogan from Ruyton-XI-Towns near Oswestry made the video after suffering serious injuries in a road crash.

Her video on Facebook has been viewed more than 53,000 times. She says wearing a helmet saved her life.

She suffered serious head and face injuries, including two skull fractures, one of which damaged the optic nerve which means Amey has permanently lost the sight in her

right eye. The accident happened as Amey was cycling to school.

She was taken to Birmingham Children's Hospital where she underwent surgery to fix her jaw which was broken in two places and to mend her smashed cheekbones.

Now recovering she surprised her

family with the video, made on her mobile phone.

In it Amey has posted a series of pictures along with powerful statements.

She wrote that she had suffered serious injuries but was slowly getting better, day by day.

Man receives gallantry award for rescue at sea

Report by Sue Austin

A MAN who dived into the sea to rescue two girls in an effort which saw another man die will be presented with the Queen's Gallantry Medal.

Stephen Adams, from Oswestry, will be given the award, alongside the family of Richard Guest, from Walsall, West Midlands, who died in the rescue attempt and is being posthumously honoured.

The incident happened when both men went into the sea to help when they heard screams at a beach in Tywyn, Gwynedd, in Wales in July 2015.

Factory with 190 staff set to close

A FACTORY with 190 workers is facing closure after bosses announced new business plans.

Castings firm Stadco, which has bases in Llanfyllin, near Oswestry and Telford, is proposing to close its Shrewsbury base in Harlescott by the middle of next year. The firm said it would aim to move all 190 workers to its other plants, which also includes Castle Bromwich in the West Midlands.

Tracy Fuerst, global director of corporate communications and public relations for Stadco, said: "If approved, Stadco's operations would be redistributed to the company's Castle Bromwich, Powys and Telford plants without disruption to the customer. Approximately 190 employees would be affected by the closure and would have the opportunity to move to one of the three neighbouring facilities."

They were being carried away in a rip tide.

The pair managed to save one teenage girl.

Mr Adams was able to lead the teenage girl to safety.

But Mr Guest stayed behind in search of a second girl who had, unbeknown to them made her way to the shore.

Mr Adams then discovered the 74-year-old grandfather face down in the water.

Mr Guest was later pronounced dead in hospital.

The committee said: "Both men demonstrated unselfish courage.

"Neither man knew the two girls yet were willing to risk their own lives to ensure the safety of two strangers."

Reacting to news of the medal, Mr Adams said: "I am humbled and honoured to receive the Queen's Gallantry Medal."

And Mr Adams added: "I would like to take this moment as an opportunity to remember that Mr Guest lost his life trying to help others and to reflect on how merciless the sea can be."

20ft fountain as pipe bursts



Water soars into the air in an image posted by North Wales Police

WE might be in the grips of a heatwave, but there was plenty of water to be found on the streets of one town.

This was the dramatic scene when a water main burst on a busy road near Chirk, sending a jet of water 20ft in the air.

The McDonald's restaurant at the nearby Halton Roundabout was left without water and forced to close as a result. North Wales Police urged drivers to avoid the stretch of A5, between Chirk and Llangollen, while the leak was dealt with on Tuesday.

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Women drivers on the right road to pass tests

Report by Dominic Robertson

WOMEN in two of the region's towns are more successful at men than passing driving tests – two of only 10 locations in Britain where that is the case.

Both Oswestry and Newtown test centres buck the national trend as far as the gender division over pass rates is concerned, with women outperforming their male counterparts. It comes as a study of insurance deals shows that

Fundraiser Chris gears up for ride

A FUNDRAISER from Llangedwyn near Oswestry is gearing up for the RideLondon cycling challenge on Sunday to raise funds for Bowel Cancer UK and Beating Bowel Cancer.

The Prudential RideLondon-Surrey 100 will begin at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and follows a 100-mile cycling route on closed roads through London and into the Surrey countryside.

Raising awareness of bowel cancer is important to Chris Emmett, 65, as his bowel cancer was picked up early through the national screening programme. He is determined to make more people aware of the disease and raise much needed funds for the cause. Chris has now almost reached his target of raising £4,000 for the charity.

Chris, who has been training for RideLondon since March, said: "I am keen to tell everyone to take their screening seriously and get on with it. They may be able to be treated and get back to a normal life, which happened to me. I wasn't that surprised to be diagnosed as my mother had bowel cancer at the same age. She lived on until she was 97 proving there is plenty of life after the disease. Bowel Cancer UK and Beating Bowel Cancer do great work educating the public about bowel cancer."

men often pay higher premiums than women as they have more accidents, although pricing differently based on gender was banned by the EU in 2012.

But across most of Britain they appear to be better drivers, at least at the start, than women.

Despite that, Oswestry and Newtown test centre women have a higher pass rate.

Figures from the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency show that, between April 2017 and March 2018, 51.2 per cent of women who attempted the practical test managed to pass, while 49.6 per cent of men were successful. Across that period Oswestry test centre carried out 1,284 tests – 701 for women and 583 for men. There were 648 passes, at a rate of 50.5 per cent – higher than Great Britain's average of 46 per cent. For the same period in Newtown 55.6 per cent of women passed, while 52 per cent of men were successful. The test centre carried out 1,192 tests during the period – 604 for women and 588 for men.

There were 642 passes, at a rate of 53.9 per cent, again higher than Great Britain's average of 46 per cent.

The test centre with the highest pass rate was Golspie, in the Scottish Highlands, where more than three quarters of learners were awarded their licences, while in The Pavilion, in Birmingham, fewer than a third were successful, making it the toughest. On December 4 last year the driving test was changed, with many observers saying the new test is tougher than the old one.

DVSA deputy chief driving examiner Gordon Witherspoon said: "DVSA's priority is to help everyone through a lifetime of safe driving. All candidates are assessed to the same level and the result of their test is entirely dependent on their performance on the day."

Prison receives knife banks



Rob Luxford, security lead, Clive Knowles and Andy Cook, violence reduction manager AN Oswestry firm is doing its bit to reduce knife-related violence in a prison.

HMP Berwyn at Wrexham has taken delivery of three knife banks created by the British Ironwork Centre.

The banks were created to assist the prison in reducing knife incidents and offering visitors and inmates an opportunity to dispose of anything safely.

The firm's knife bank project has now helped and supported all 43 police constabularies in the country and many community and anti-violence groups.

Clive Knowles from the firm said it will continue with the campaign until it reaches one million blades.

During the visit to hand over the knife banks Mr Knowles was given a guided tour of the prison and met staff and inmates in order to understand more fully the issues and difficulties in running the UK's largest prison.

Further cooperation and collaborative working will be discussed and progressed in the future with the company joining the rehabilitation programme and offering support to prisoners approaching the completion of their sentences.

He said rehabilitation in the community had a positive effect in that it enables inmates to reintegrate back into the community and helps them find work.

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BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

We're all used to seeing some old guys popping into the House of Lords to take 40 winks and claim their attendance fee.

But it came as a bit of a shock to see a committee chairman apparently nodding off during an important Powys County Council scrutiny meeting – particularly as he is the committee chairman. Fellow councillors took to social media to share the video images of Liberal Democrat Councillor Pete Roberts at a learning, skills and economy scrutiny panel meeting, which other councillors were joining via a Skype system. In the video the councillor appears to be struggling to stay awake and is eventually alerted (or should that read woken) by a council officer, prompting fellow councillors to share a version of the Skyped meeting on Facebook. Ironically it was the Llan-drindrod councillor's first official meeting in the chair following his controversial reinstatement after revealing he had high functioning autism and Asperger syndrome. Fellow councillors had voted him down for poor attendance but the Liberal Democrat group won his reinstatement on a legal challenge. Councillor Roberts picks up an additional annual payment of over £7,000 for chairing the important scrutiny panel which begs a few questions – mainly about whether the tax paying residents of Powys are getting value for money.

You couldn't help but be moved by the televised appearance of Louise Corfield from Montgomery last weekend urging young people to "stay safe" at the Royal Welsh Show.

Mrs Corfield's own 19-year-old son James died in a tragic accident in the River Wye at last year's show and she made an emotional plea to youngsters attending this year's event to take extra care to ensure they returned home safely.

It must have taken immense courage for her to go before the cameras so soon after her own son's tragic death and it is hoped her message is heard and understood by the thousands who will flock to Builth Wells this week.

I think I may be going a little soft. Shopping and cinema on a Saturday afternoon just never figured in my life before but that's exactly what happened with a neck injury keeping me away from the golf course. Surprised to say what an enjoyable day it turned out to be – not the shopping, the cinema. Can thoroughly recommend Mama Mia. As for the shopping, it will be a long time before the next trip.



Thousands of people attend the show



Some of the area's best livestock will be on display



The show celebrates the history of farming

Historic farming show is always cut above the rest

Oswestry Show is just around the corner and once again has plenty to offer. JONNY DRURY reports

ORGANISERS of the Oswestry & District Agricultural Show are looking forward to another great day on Saturday, August 4, when people from far and wide will gather at the Park Hall Showground to celebrate this prestigious event that dates back to 1862.

Not only does the show endorse the best of British agriculture it promotes local businesses and activities, countryside pursuits and provides a varied programme of entertainment for visitors throughout the day.

President for the 133rd show is Neil Brogden.

Local farmer and long standing Show Council member, Nigel Whittingham is taking on his second year as show chairman and looks forward to leading the strong band of volunteers who put on the show each year.

Spectators to the main ring can enjoy a packed programme including judging of the various horse breeds, parade of vintage vehicles and machinery, inter club young farmer's competitions, and the highlight being a motorbike display by the Jamie Squibb Freestyle Stunt Team sponsored by Ridgway Rentals.

Also this year will be a parade by the Tanatside Hounds, and a display of Farming through the Ages – highlighting the changes of potato farming over the years.



For 2018 the show has been invited to be on the Welsh Lamb Shearing Circuit

Judging of cattle and sheep classes takes place throughout the morning concluding with the grand parade of prize winners in the main arena in the afternoon.

The popular sheep shearing competition also makes for exciting viewing when exhibitors race against the clock to remove fleeces in record times.

For 2018 the show has been invited to be on the Welsh Lamb Shearing Circuit which should make for more

exciting competition. Oswestry Show boasts a strong horticultural marquee showing wonderful displays of vegetables and flowers demonstrating gardening at its best, beautiful colourful floral art arrangements, photography, wine and the imaginative children's classes. Many breeds of the fur and feather variety can be found in the small livestock building, making for some fascinating viewing.

A vital part of the show is the Wom-

en's Institute and Young Farmers areas, where their members showcase an amazing range of skills and talents.

Younger visitors can enjoy a ride on the Oswestry Model Railway and a varied programme of entertainment has been organised for the Village Green.

A large number of trade stands are situated around the showground and also a wide variety of stalls and businesses showcasing and selling their wares in the craft, food and business marquees.

WORKING FOR YOU



I write this column on Monday evening after returning home from the Royal Welsh Show at Llanellwedd – much the best agricultural show in the UK. This year, Montgomeryshire is the host county at the show and our own Tom Tudor of Llysun Farm, Llanerfyl is the president. This morning the weather forecast was good and I set off early for a day of meeting old friends and discussing matters of concern to all of Wales, and especially relating to the future of our countryside. First event was a seminar in the NFU Cymru marquee. Strong panel including Carwyn Jones, Welsh First Minister and presidents of NFU Cymru and UK. And the issue was (you've guessed it) Brexit. There was widespread concern about the future. Almost nil reference to any opportunities. After an hour of this relentless pessimism, even my natural optimism began to wane. It was obvious to me that the leaders of the farming unions remain deeply opposed to Brexit, as they were when the people of Britain voted Leave in 2016.

As I listened to the platform presentations (and most of the contributions from the floor), my mind drifted back to the rancorous debate before the EU Referendum. In May/June 2016 after listening to the leaders of the farming unions, I discussed the issue with farmers selling their lambs in the livestock market. They were mostly in favour of Leave, despite the uncertainty. I suspect it's the same now.

I voted Leave myself, despite being consumed by uncertainty at the time. I simply did not want (and still don't want) my country to be subsumed into "ever closer union". My hesitation in 2016 was because I knew that disengaging from the EU after 45 years of integration would be a very long and difficult process. But we did hold a referendum, a majority did vote Leave, and we are going to Leave the EU in March. Anything else would be a constitutional outrage. I should add that a second referendum would be the worst option of all and in my opinion lead to civil unrest. But despite the confusion and uncertainty surrounding the EU/UK negotiations, and the best efforts of farming leaders, I still feel optimistic and would still vote Leave. The behaviour of the EU negotiating team over the last two years has only strengthen my resolve. It may be my bloody-minded streak, or my continued belief in the can-do spirit of the British people.

Glyn Davies
Montgomeryshire MP

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Shocked over behaviour of this gang

I HAD no hesitation to vote to leave the EU when I was given the chance.

But even so I'm really surprised and in fact shocked to have learned since how arrogant, bullying and generally unreasonable the gang in Brussels are turning out to be. All I can say is what a good job we found out in time whilst we are still in a reasonably strong position to walk away should it come to that – unlike poor Italy. I suggest that all those who still hanker for the UK

to remain in the EU should follow the situation developing in Italy over the next few months. Italy is in much less favourable position than the UK to resist the underlying relentless pressure from the EU which has already prevented the formation of a new government which wasn't to the liking of Brussels because they dared to suggest the appointment of a finance minister who was alleged to have Eurosceptic views.

On a slightly different note I can't under-

stand why M Barnier should agree to meet with the First Minister of Scotland, Ms Sturgeon, unless its to undermine Mrs May because as far as I know she – Ms Sturgeon – has no official status in the negotiations.

Incidentally I honestly cannot understand why Ms Sturgeon would prefer to abandon the UK where Scotland is still a relatively important 'player'.

MICHAEL HUGHES
Shrewsbury

Parliament must obey the will of the people of UK

I AGREE with Bob Wyddell's view, "Our democracy has been nullified", viz his letter in the Oswestry and Border Chronicle, July 19, in that our Parliamentary system seems to be engaged in undoing the result of the Brexit Referendum.

Unfortunately Parliament, instead of implementing the UK electorate's clear instruction to leave the EU, and its institutions, the single market, the customs union, its rules, committees etc, has, by dint of applying party lines and taking a side or a view with regard to Brexit, post referendum, when in fact it should not have done so, when the question should have been accepted as settled by the voting result, has got itself into a quagmire.

If Parliament will not properly and truly effect the leave vote, then we have a tyranny over the people, and our Parliament is not fit for purpose, does not serve the people, but serves financial interests and powerful groups. The people should be sovereign over Parliament, not the other way round! We need to find a more democratic system for the good of the country, not the old adversarial system where MPs care about their party being in power over the good of the country. The people's vote to quit the EU was a choice for sovereignty first over economic interest. People voted for their country to be independent even if it meant short term economic loss, and they had a longer view to prosperity as we freely make our own trade deals with the rest of the world. We need to devise a better political system that obeys the will of the democratic majority.

JUNE MCCARTHY
Oswestry

What worth are libraries?

WHAT is the worth of the libraries of Shropshire?

We are told that Shropshire Council proposes to close 14 libraries across the county in order to reduce its expenditure by £276,000; this reduction is to be put towards a shortfall of some £40 million in the budget for social care.

Clearly such a reduction will make negligible impact on that enormous hole in the budget.

To avoid these library closures (that is to raise the £274,000) I am advised that increasing council tax for the majority of Shropshire residents would cost each one of them an additional £2.28 a year.

Surely that is a price worth paying for the libraries.

Why not consult your local councillor on such a proposition and ask her/him what is the worth of local libraries?

MARTIN BEARDWELL
Shrewsbury

Planning goes on - no matter the weather



Brrr... This photo was taken on February 19, 1979, and shows Oswestry Borough councillors and county councillors meeting at Park Hall camp, near Oswestry, to discuss details for a proposed gipsy camp site.

One reason why the banks are closing their doors

I WAS surprised to read MP Philip Dunne being critical of banks closing branches in rural areas.

He mentioned the difficulties this would cause to elderly and vulnerable people.

What he fails to mention is that over the past 40 years successive Governments have insisted that benefits, including the state retirement pension, should be paid direct to bank accounts.

Gone are the days when you went each week to the local post office to collect your pension or other benefits in cash.

Gone is the opportunity for neighbours to notice that one of the regulars is not present, gone is the probability that some of that pension money would be spent in the local shop on the way home.

The reason for this policy was because the process was expensive and the Government was having to foot the bill.

I suspect that the reason the bank branches face closure is very much the same.

DAVID BREEZE
Dawley Bank

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Readers' Letters,
The Chronicle,
14 Salop Road,
Oswestry, SY11 2NU

EMAIL

iajn.stjohn@
shropshirestar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Time to get rid of the House of Lords

IN my view the House of Lords needs abolishing.

Keep perhaps a small handful of 10 lords to have a second look at legislation before it becomes law.

Many in power serve two masters having dealings and money from both UK and EU. Much money can be saved by getting rid of hangers-on.

We can make our own decisions, without dictatorship from the EU, saving millions of pounds per day that they want off us.

L PARKER
Wellington

We are not mad in standing up to the Brexit bullies

THERE are some letters in the readers' letters page of the Shropshire Star that makes me believe that Brexit bullies screaming threats at anybody who dares question their make believe world, are somehow bizarre.

They think the 48.1 per cent who voted not to leave in the referendum have no right to question the 51.9 per cent who voted to leave. For the 48.1 per cent – almost half the country – believe that this great deception to leave will leave us with a withdrawal for the world economy.

Leading Brexit bullies choose to believe Britain will become the old land of old honey. Anyone who questions this Holy Grail referendum decision reason, or offers informed doubt, is somehow mad. One would debate that this is a return in the 21st century where knowledge become the slave of religious theology. By that 'faith' understand the denial of all scientific reasoning, or in this case economic reasoning.

RON JOWETT
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Spiritual group to meet up

MEMBERS of Oswestry Spiritual Centre will hold their next meeting this evening (Thursday).

The event will take place in the Cambrian Room in the Memorial Hall in Oswestry.

The event runs from 7.30pm to 9pm with doors opening at 7pm. The cost is £3.50. Val Laundry from the group said: "We have Emily Baker from Ludlow as our guest medium who is a psychic artist. This is an amazing way to see how the two worlds connect by Emily drawing a portrait of a loved one and giving information to prove that life continues but only in another dimension."

Focus will be on horse group

OSWESTRY and District Townswomen's Guild will have its monthly meeting today (Thursday).

It takes place in the Festival Suite in the Memorial Hall in Oswestry from 2pm to 4pm.

The speaker this month is Jenny Lack who will talk about Brooke, which is a group that gives help to ill treated horses.

The group has a varied selection of speakers and demonstrators throughout the year, trips out and lunches.

For more information contact Val Laundry on (01691) 657061 or 07891 084071.

Theft of anvil

THIEVES have stolen a blacksmith's anvil from a yard in Knockin near Oswestry.

Police say two or more people would have been needed to lift the grey anvil and stand, taken from a locked yard between July 2-10. Meanwhile, a horsebox was taken from a field on the edge of St Martins between July 13-15.

Poignant artwork turns heads in town centre



The students from The Marches School in Oswestry get to work on the project



The completed mural of First World War soldiers in Oswestry town centre

War mural praised

A THOUGHT-PROVOKING mural of First World War soldiers has been turning heads in Oswestry.

Art students from the Marches School took a design based on a photograph of the time and turned it into the artwork which they painted onto a wall on Welsh Walls in the town.

The project was part of the Wilfred Owen Festival which will run in and around Oswestry from September until November this year, commemorating the centenary of the First World War and the life of war poet, Wilfred Owen, born in the town.

Chris Woods from the festival committee said the mural had been well received.

Report by Sue Austin

"People passing by as it was being painted were full of praise for what the students were doing," he said.

"We would like to thank the Dulux Decorating Centre in Maesbury Road for supplying the paint and Guy Nicholls from The Willow Tree for allowing us to paint the mural on a wall of the property."

The Wilfred Owen Festival has a wealth of events planned.

"We are working with four local secondary schools and Derwen College as well as several primary schools as part of the festival," said Mr Woods.

He said that as well as the artwork there had been poetry workshops centred around

World War One. Across Britain silhouettes of soldiers are being placed in towns and villages. Recently one appeared under a tree outside the town hall in Ellesmere.

Mr Woods said that the festival committee was looking to do more work with the art department at The Marches.

"We have the stencils and designs available and if a shop or building would like us to consider putting a mural on their property then we would be very keen to hear from them," he said.

Anyone interested should contact the festival website, wilfredowenoswestry2018.org.uk.

The festival is designed to coincide with the centenary of Wilfred Owen's death and the centenary of Armistice Day.



The school students take a look at their work

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Technology may be used to tackle courts row

VIDEO technology could be used to tackle problems with controversial remand hearings after pressure from the region's crime commissioner.

Solicitors have been highly critical of the arrangements, which have seen all remand cases moved out of the county to Kidderminster Magistrates Court.

Now, after pressure from the county's crime commissioner, John Campion, HM Courts and Tribunals Service has said it is willing to consider the use of video links to run the hearings. It could mean that defendants no longer have to physically travel to Kidderminster for the hearings, and would instead be able to appear via video from Shropshire police stations.

Currently defendants are taken to Kidderminster by bus in the morning, or in some cases by Shropshire police officers. Mr Campion has previously said the changes to the hearings deny communities local access to justice and put additional strain on police resources. The commissioner said he had met with Deputy Justices Clerk Jonathan Price from HM Courts and Tribunals Service, who confirmed the centralised hearings would continue, but that the service was willing to consider looking into the use of technology as a means of reducing its impact. Mr Campion expressed disappointment at the decision not to bring the hearings back to Shropshire but said he was encouraged by the potential for video technology.

However, he said any system would not be able to be exclusively funded by the police.

He said: "Our communities rightfully expect to be able to access justice locally."

A&E healthcare fears are voiced over 111 switch

By Dominic Robertson

A LOCAL health official has warned that the switch from Shropdoc to 111 may put extra strain on the county's struggling emergency services.

Last week the county's contract for out of hours medical care moved from Shropdoc to the national 111 line.

It comes as it was revealed that 111 in the West Midlands sent 25 per cent of callers to A&E in June. Shropshire CCG Board papers reveal that Shropdoc had been sending around six per cent of callers an ambulance or directing them to A&E. The county's A&E departments are already under considerable pressure, and for the first week of July they were ranked as the worst in England with fewer than 70 per cent of patients there seen within four hours.

The health official – who did not want to be named – said that the "risk averse" 111 system, which relies on a computer algorithm to decide whether to send patients to A&E or to call an ambulance, is an imperfect system that will place an added burden on Shropshire's A&E units.

They added: "My concern is no-one is bold enough to talk about the thing that is staring at us all in the face, which is a headlong rush into an imperfect system. This is happening nationally."

The official called on the county's MPs to put pressure on the Department of Health to ensure improvements are made to the system. They said: "They won't turn the clock back on it at a national level so our MPs need to lobby the health department to acknowledge the flaws in the system and do something about it."

Students' achievements recognised



Ruth Martin, marketing executive from Aico, with Georgina Scott and Jane Pritchard, finance clerk from Aico

NORTH Shropshire College recently celebrated a successful end to the year as it held its annual awards evening at its Oswestry campus.

The event was attended by staff, students, parents and governors.

Danielle Brown, a Paralympic gold medalist, presented the students with their awards and also impressed the audience with her inspirational speech during the event.

Among the students who received recognition for their achievements this year was Georgina Scott, who won the prestigious overall Student of the Year Award. Georgina was presented with a prize by local business Aico Ltd who sponsored the award.

As well as students, a very special staff member also had her outstanding contribution recognised at the awards evening.

Marion Ellis who has worked at the college for more than 30 years as a cook received a Contribution to College Life Award to recognise her dedication and exceptional customer service during these years.

Marion said of her award: "It was absolutely lovely to get the award; it will take pride of place in my cabinet at home."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Plan for eyesore site is welcomed

A COUNCILLOR has welcomed fresh plans to revamp an eyesore site on the edge of Oswestry.

Morrisons has applied for new planning permission for a food store, petrol station, car wash and "retail pods" at a site off Shrewsbury Road.

Shropshire Councillor for Oswestry South Paul Milner said it will be a relief for everyone in the town to see the site developed.

"It's been empty for such a long time," he said. "Residents and tourists have to drive past it, as it is a gateway into the town, and see that mess."

However, Councillor Milner said he hopes people do not use Morrisons as a "one-stop shop". "We've got lots of great independent shops in Oswestry so I hope people continue to support them as well," he said

Rape conviction rates are revealed

FEWER than one in four rape cases brought to court by West Mercia Police last year resulted in a conviction, figures show.

Data, released by the Ministry of Justice, reveals that in 2017 only 23 per cent of West Mercia Police's prosecutions for rape were successful.

Last year the force brought 122 cases to court, and 28 resulted in convictions.

Meanwhile, Dyfed-Powys Police said it took 21 rape cases to court in 2017, with 13 successful convictions.

Across England and Wales overall one in five rape cases are successfully prosecuted, according to the MoJ.

The MoJ's data includes cases where rape is the principle or most serious offence, so incidents where the victim was killed would be counted as murder or manslaughter. The figures show that prosecutions for West Mercia Police are getting more successful.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Quiz supports 40s weekend

A QUIZ in aid of Welshpool 1940s Weekend will take place in the Church House this evening (Thursday) at 7.30pm with doors opening at 7pm.

Teams of four are welcome at £2.50 per player. Refreshments will be served at half time but patrons are asked to bring their own drinks. Further details of the 2018 Welshpool 40s weekend can be found on Facebook at Welshpool Forties Weekend.

Time soon to rock and roll

FOLLOWING a successful evening earlier in the year, another night of Vintage Rock n Roll will be held in the Town Hall in Welshpool on August 4 in aid of Severn Hospice.

With tributes to Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly and others patrons are encouraged to dress in 50s or 60s fashions although this is not compulsory.

Tickets are £10 and can be bought in advance from Welshpool Jewellers or Severn Hospice Shop.

Drivers' course

YOUNG drivers in Powys are being urged to sign up to a course that will help them gain valuable experience and skills to reduce their road risk.

Pass Plus Cymru is a road safety scheme being offered to young drivers by Powys County Council's road safety unit. Aimed at young drivers aged 17 to 25 who hold a full driving licence, the course consists of a 2.5-hour theory session, followed by a nine-hour practical session with an approved driving instructor.

Householders urged to put out recycling weekly

Report by Jonny Drury

HOUSEHOLDS in Powys are being encouraged to put their recycling containers and food caddy out every week for collection instead of only putting them out on the weeks when they are full.

Powys County Council's recycling and waste team wants households to take advantage of the weekly kerbside recycling and food waste collection service by putting their containers out every week on their collection day.

One of the advantages for households is that it is easier to move containers if they are lighter, especially the paper/card and glass containers. Putting the containers out weekly will also help the council ensure that its collection routes are as efficient as possible as the quantities of material collected from the kerbside each week will be more consistent. Councillor Phyl Davies, cabinet member for recycling and waste, said: "We understand why households might only put their recycling boxes out for collection when they are full but there is no need to do this with our weekly collections."

"Regularly using the service not only prevents materials building up at home, but also makes it easier for our collection lorries to complete their rounds by balancing out the material collected every week. So even if you only have a couple of glass jars, a couple of food items or few sheets of paper and card, please put your containers out."

Green Flag delight for spectacular sites



The Montgomery Canal in Welshpool is a well used attraction

FOUR green spaces in Shropshire have been recognised as being among the best in the UK. Telford Town Park, Severn Valley Country Park, The Mere at Ellesmere and Montgomery Canal have all been given Green Flag awards.

The four have been named among a record-breaking 1,883 UK parks and green spaces that received the prestigious award, which is the mark of a quality park or green space.

The Mere at Ellesmere attracts 240,000 visitors a year and is one of nine meres and mosses in the area.

Montgomery Canal, known as "The Monty" among its users, is a partially restored canal in eastern Wales and northwest Shropshire.

The canal fell into disuse following a breach in 1936 but is being restored.

Around seven miles from Frankton Junction to Gronwyn Wharf is navigable at this current time. The section of the canal in Welshpool is widely used for leisure purposes and work is continuing on restoring the full length of the waterway.

Payments to councillors have gone up in last year

SALARIES, allowances and expenses paid out by a local authority increased by £11,000 in the last year.

Powys County Council has earmarked £12 million worth of cuts to be made in the coming year, with about £3 million of them already being achieved.

However in the last year the amount paid to its members in allowances and expenses amounted to £1.314 million, up 0.864 per cent on the previous year.

A report went before the full county council in Llandrindod Wells, setting out the breakdown of full expenses.

The information will then need to be published before September 30.

Among the statistics, travelling expenses paid to councillors dropped for the year 2017/18 to £89,894, down £7,421 on the previous year.

However the amount paid out in basic salaries to the 73 members increased.

In 2016/17, a total of £964,122 was paid to the members, and that figure rose by 0.595 per cent to £969,860 in the last year.

The amount paid to people in senior or civic roles, such as cabinet members, rose by £13,233 to £248,173. The top earners among the cabinet were council leader Rosemarie Harris, who was elected to the role following last year's local county elections.

Her total take home amounted to £51,416, with £31,771 coming from her senior salary, and £6,255 being made up in travelling expenses.

The other top earners are made up of other cabinet members.

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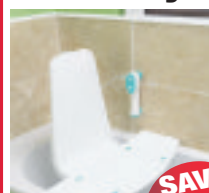
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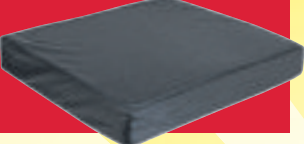


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Fire crews called back to hill blaze

FIRE crews were twice called out to tackle a hill fire on the edge of Llangollen as the hot weather and dry conditions continue.

The gorse fire on Llantysilio mountain, a well known beauty spot, had been extinguished by firefighters after it broke out on Wednesday night last week.

But it re-ignited and the fire service had to return four days later.

With the area being popular with walkers, roads and footpaths in the area around the fire were closed.

The Llangollen blaze was the latest to hit countryside in Shropshire and Mid Wales in the heatwave.

Last week more than 50 firefighters were sent to tackle a large woodland fire at The Bog, near Stiperstones in Shropshire.

Mixed fortunes on employment

THE employment rate in Powys has increased over the past year, in contrast to neighbouring Shropshire where it has fallen.

In the UK as a whole the rate of those in work has increased to record levels in the last 12 months.

New data from the Office for National Statistics has revealed that the number of people in either part-time or full-time employment in Shropshire fell to 77.7 per cent between April 2017 and March 2018. This was a decrease of 0.4 percentage points from the previous year, when the rate was at 78.1 per cent.

Meanwhile, the employment rate in Powys has increased over the past year. The number of people in either part-time or full-time employment in Powys rose to 81.1 per cent between April 2017 and March 2018. This was an increase of 4.9 percentage points.

Application for homes is approved once again

Report by Emily Lloyd

A CONTROVERSIAL planning application has been approved for a second time.

Applicants James and Eileen McNally had already received permission to build 13 homes on land adjacent to Willow Bank in Hengoed, near Oswestry.

But after it lapsed in February following delays in providing the affordable homes contribution they had to resubmit the proposal. The development includes four two-bedroom properties, which would be affordable homes, as well as seven three-bedroom and two four-bedroom properties.

The original application in 2012 proposed five affordable homes and eight on the open market. Case officer Mark Perry explained that although Severnside Housing Association had given its support to delivering those homes, it was later Wrekin Housing Trust that planned to develop them.

He continued: "The trust then removed their commitment to providing the affordable dwellings as they were unable to secure the necessary funding. They could not get the funding because inadequate housing need had been identified in Hengoed specifically."

The decision to reduce the affordable housing contribution was confirmed in October 2017, but the applicants were unable to begin work on the development before the February deadline. The parish council was neutral to the proposal, however it received 10 letters of objection. Concerns raised included lack of parking, the increased traffic, lack of services in Hengoed, and the impact it would have on the community.

Arches come alive in spectacular style



There were lights, music and fireworks at the Under the Arches event

THERE were fireworks and fabulous music, dancing and downpours at the Underneath the Arches spectacular.

The World Heritage Site, the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, near Oswestry, played host to what has become a popular annual event at the weekend.

After weeks of not a spot of rain the heavens opened for the festival-goers.

Undaunted hundreds sheltered under brollies and donned plastic macs to enjoy the music until the rain cleared.

The festival has become a well known family fun event.

Voted as North Wales's best event and finalist for Best in Wales in previous years, Underneath the Arches combines sound and light in spectacular style. The aqueduct, built by Thomas Telford to carry the Llangollen Canal, was illuminated for the occasion and the evening ended with a bang – in a massive firework display.

Gav Jones, from the band Break The Record, said: "Despite the rain, this event was fantastic, great organisation, fantastic crowd and superb music. We thoroughly enjoyed performing at the event and we hope to come back in the near future."

Reports of hate crime are on the increase

REPORTS of hate crimes have more than doubled in the last three years, it has been revealed.

There were 1,321 offences across the West Mercia region in 2016/17, compared with only 654 in 2014/15.

The 102 per cent increase is nearly double the national figure of 57 per cent.

West Mercia's police and crime commissioner has vowed that victims would be listened to and supported.

John Campion said victims would get the help they needed. Hate crime is defined as a crime motivated by racial, sexual, or other prejudice, typically one involving violence or intimidation.

"Ultimately, I want our communities to be safer, happier and more united," Mr Campion said. "We can all help to achieve that."

"I have invested in a number of projects, providing a joined up approach to addressing hate crime, and I am reassured by the work of West Mercia Police who are raising awareness and engaging with communities."

"I made a commitment to victims they would get an efficient and effective service from the police, and the support to help them cope and recover. Great progress has been made around this, and whilst we are not complacent and there is more to build on, I am reassured that the police are working diligently to prevent and to tackle unacceptable behaviour, and injustices in society." Chief Superintendent Kevin Purcell, who leads West Mercia Police's response to hate crime, said: "No-one should be targeted for being themselves and we can never underestimate the devastating effect being a victim of a hate crime can have on people."



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Big top shows set to wow the crowds



Scheherazade and 1001 Nights retells great stories from the ancient world in dance

This year brings a double celebration as Telford and Oakengates Theatre @ The Place turn 50.

To mark this momentous occasion the theatre is moving to Telford Town Park from August 4 to 19 inclusive and will be showing a variety of entertainment in a 1,000 seater Big Top tent in the QEII arena.

A total of 17 shows have been announced over the two weeks.

For classical music fans there is tenor Russell Watson and Collabro. Families can enjoy the

Commercial feature

stage coming alive with prehistoric creatures at Dinosaur World Live in the afternoons. Everybody loves a laugh and there are two men coming to Telford who know how to make you crack a smile, Dara O'Brian and pub landlord Al Murray are bound to have the crowds in stitches.

For those wanting to relive their youth there will be themed nights – Sounds of the 60s, an Abba tribute night, 80's Mania and for those

that don't feel that old but still love flashback to their recent youth S Club, Five and East 17 join the line-up.

A spectacle of beauty will happen at Scheherazade and 1001 Nights, with a breathtaking explosion of dance, fire and illusion. Company of Dreams transports you to the exotic, dangerous and magical world of the Arabian Nights. In this brand new production of one of the greatest stories of the ancient world, Scheherazade and her magical tales of genies, ghouls and faeries, of Sinbad, Aladdin and Ali



An eighties evening is one of the many themed events planned. There will also be a sixties night and an Abba tribute night

Baba, are retold in thrilling dance. And finally for that ladies night out, come and see Keith Duffy and Brian McFadden join forces as Boyzlife. Sing along as they relive some of Boyzone's and Westlife's biggest hits.

For all those film and musical lovers, start practising your vocal scales, because we've got singalong screenings of feel good musicals including The Greatest Showman and the most successful movie musical of all time, Grease. Where better to see your favourite musicals than a big top tent?

This event will provide people with an opportunity to experience a range of top class entertainment in a magical setting. It will truly be a unique theatrical experience for Telford and will be the perfect way to celebrate Telford's 50th birthday. Our aim is that there will be something to suit everyone's taste.

To find out more or book visit www.telford50.co.uk/bigtop or call the box office on 01952 382382. For more information on what other exciting events are happening as part of Telford50 visit www.telford50.co.uk

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14 Learning is set to stem from firm's challenge

Oswestry & Border Chronicle Thursday, July 26, 2018

A COMPANY specialising in domestic smoke and carbon monoxide alarms is hoping to inspire the next generation to get involved with Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

Aico Ltd is working with St Martins School near Oswestry on a series of challenges aimed at giving students a hands-on experience of the electrical industry.

Aico Ltd's "Aico in the Community" team has been formed so the company can support education, charity, volunteering and enterprise within the local area.

The Aico Alarm Challenge is one of its first initiatives, created in partnership with STEM and Industrial Cadets, part of The Engineering Trust.

Year 9 students spent a day at Aico's Centre of Excellence, a purpose-built training facility within Mile End Business Park, to take part in a STEM Challenge, tackling a series of tasks including alarm programming, using installation software and wiring workshops. The aim is that participants will leave with a real-life context of how technology and innovation work in a electronics company.

Once back in the classroom the students were also asked to complete a specification challenge bringing together all the knowledge they have gained throughout their day to design a fire alarm system.

Contract is given to build new school

THE contract to build a new school in Powys has been awarded to an Oswestry firm.

Pave Aways has been appointed to build a replacement primary school at Carno and major refurbishment work at Ysgol Glantwymyn.

The work at Ysgol Carno will mean pupils no longer having to be taught in mobile classroom thanks to a new school building with dedicated early years' provision adjacent to the community hall.

Funding for the £2.8m project is split between Powys County Council and the Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools programme, with a £500,000 contribution from Carno Recreation Association, donated by the Tirgwynt Wind farm Trust.

The schools are part of a federation of three Welsh-medium primary schools, made up of Carno, Glantwymyn and Llanbrynmair. Cabinet member for schools, Councillor Myfanwy Alexander said: "This project has partnerships in its heart, between Powys County Council, the community and Welsh Government

"It will find the finance, between Pave Aways and local contractors to do the work and between the three school communities of Llanbrynmair, Glantwymyn and Carno whose federated strength shows that small rural schools can thrive in a modern context. We are proud to be building a village school, demonstrating our commitment to the two thirds of Powys residents who live in the countryside."

£500k boost for wildlife centre

THE nature reserve famous for its ospreys has won a £500,000 lottery grant.

Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust secured a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund for the £1.1 million Dyfi Wildlife Centre project.

Based on Cors Dyfi Reserve, near Machynlleth, home of the Dyfi Osprey Project and 360 Observatory, the wildlife centre is expected to draw in 40,000 to 60,000 visitors per year.

The Heritage Lottery Fund will provide half of the project costs, the other half being funded by donations and membership appeals.

Emyr Evans, for the project, said it would create a flagship visitor centre on the banks of the Dyfi River one of the few lowland peat bog habitats remaining in Wales, giving a far richer and immersive experience for visitors and volunteers alike. "Showcasing the reserve's rich biodiversity, including the Dyfi ospreys, a team of staff and 200 volunteers will communicate the cultural, industrial and natural heritage of the Dyfi River in the pioneering centre," he said.

Third of parents fail to comply with child maintenance payments properly says report

Report by David Banner

MORE than 30 per cent of parents in Shropshire failed to comply with child maintenance payments under a new scheme.

Newly-released figures from the Department of Work and Pensions show that nearly 40 per cent of parents in the area covered by Shropshire Council failed to fully comply with payments in the first three months of the year.

In the area covered by Telford & Wrekin Council the figure was 35 per cent, and in Powys it was 40.5 per cent.

The figures show that of those due to pay support through the Child Maintenance Service in Shropshire about 310 partially complied.

In Telford the number was 290 and in Powys it was 120.

Numbers provided by the government are

rounded to the nearest ten, but the DWP says that 39.8 per cent in Shropshire failed to make their full payments between January and March this year, with 35 per cent in Telford, and 40.5 per cent in Powys.

At the start of this year, the best performance was in the Shetland Islands, Scotland, where only 24.1 per cent of parents failed to pay.

The poorest record was in Rutland, East Midlands, where 55.3 per cent of parents did not meet their obligations to their children.

This payment service, called Collect & Pay, is part of the Child Maintenance Service (CMS), which was set up in 2012 to replace the Child

Support Agency (CSA). The Child Maintenance Service can calculate the amount of child support to be paid and parents can arrange the payments between themselves – a mechanism called Direct Pay.

In cases where parents cannot do this or there is a disagreement about payment, the Collect & Pay service can collect and manage the payments between the parents. The CMS can take money from a parent's earnings or their bank account if they try to avoid payments, or take a parent to court. The charity for single-parent families, Gingerbread, said the latest figures for parents with outstanding child support debts are "worryingly high".

Sumi Rabindrakumar, research officer at Gingerbread, said: "Child maintenance alone

lifts a fifth of low-income single parent families out of poverty. But sadly, we regularly hear from single parents whose children are not receiving the support they are owed even when using the Collect & Pay service.

"With a £200 million child maintenance debt already built up under this specific service there's a real danger of the government repeating the failings of the previous Child Support Agency unless they act now.

"The Child Maintenance Service must put in place stronger systems and resource to make sure that children do not go without the financial support they need."

At the end of March 2018, two thirds of paying parents in the CMS were using Direct Pay and one third the Collect & Pay Service.

Grants available for work to preserve war memorials

Report by Jonny Drury

COMMUNITIES in Powys are being urged to apply for grants to help preserve World War One memorials for future generations.

The Powys War Memorials Project can provide grants to repair, restore or maintain World War One memorials in the county.

The maximum grant available for repair works for one memorial is £5,000 while up to £200 is available to improve war memorial surroundings such as fencing, gates or lighting.

The grants from the project can cover up to 90 per cent of the cost of the work.

Any type of World War One memorial in the county is eligible including stone obelisks, stained glass windows, plaques, statues or halls.

World War One memorials with additions for other wars are also eligible.

The application process for a grant is quick and easy.

The repair grants are being allocated on a first-come, first-served basis so it's advisable to apply as soon as possible.

Respect

Cllr Martin Weale, cabinet member for regeneration and planning, said: "The Powys War Memorials Project marks our respect for those individuals who left Powys sacrificing their lives.

"Memorials form an integral part of our towns, villages and communities and provide a focal point for remembrance. The funding gives Powys a chance to remember and ensure that these memorials are protected and kept for future generations."

The Powys War Memorials Project, which is being hosted by Powys County Council, commemorates the centenary of World War One, and has been funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Cadw and the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority.

The project can also provide funding for community training, such as how to research the names on war memorials or how to set up a website to record names on war memorials. The project also supports communities to develop World War One heritage walks and facilitates community events linked with World War One.

For more information about the Powys War Memorial Project, contact Nathan Davies, Powys War Memorials Project Officer by emailing warmemorials@powys.gov.uk or calling 07973 973 687.

Juggling studies with circus skills in big top



Some of the performers in the Moreton Hall School circus show off their many skills

CIRCUS skills were on the curriculum at a Shropshire school.

In the year which marks the 250th anniversary of the first circus – one man and a horse in a tent in South London – Moreton Hall near Oswestry, brought the circus to Shropshire with a homemade extravaganza featuring all the traditions of the circus ring, complete with a red and orange big top.

The big top was the stage for clowns, still

walkers, a performing dog, chickens, equine acts and even an elephant – a model one courtesy of the nearby British Ironwork Centre.

The brainchild of Grainne and Matthew Dennison, the Moreton Hall Circus featured an array of circus acts punctuating the story of Quenella, a school runaway.

In search of the bright lights and sawdust, Quenella becomes the heroine of circus owner Madame Vera's fading show.

Over a hectic 10 days of preparation and rehearsals, pupils and staff from across the school community pulled together, with a role for everyone from sewing tutus to performing daredevil acrobatics.

Principal Jonathan Forster said: "The circus has been a wonderful opportunity for all the school to work intensively together after exams to produce a fabulous tribute to the skills and energy of everyone at Moreton."

Police force launches its summer safety campaign

A POLICE force has launched its summer campaign helping people who live in and visit the four counties it serves to safely enjoy what's on offer over the summer.

The Dyfed-Powys Police campaign, identified by the hashtag #EnjoyDPP, offers practical advice to help people enjoy towns, beaches, mountains and events.

#EnjoyDPP is about giving people the safety advice that could prevent them from requiring police assistance this summer. Police will be working closely with partner agencies who pro-

vide specialist assistance to keep people as safe as possible. Head of uniformed policing, chief superintendent Vicki Evans, said: "Our area is home to a variety of fantastic attractions, and hosts locally and nationally renowned events. People come in their droves during the summer months boosting population numbers significantly.

"The influx of visitors combined with the diversity of our patch brings challenges for us as a police force and we're adept at flexing our resources to accommodate this. However, we

appeal to our communities and visitors to help us out, so this summer we are offering some simple advice to help people enjoy our unique region, safely.

"We're encouraging people to be sensible and mindful of risks they perceive around them – don't ignore warning signs and pay attention to local weather forecasts."

The force sees reports of domestic abuse rise over the summer months. It takes a strong stance against the crime and is encouraging people to pass on information which will help

tackle the issue. Chief Superintendent Evans continued: "We understand domestic abuse isn't easy to talk about, so we have dedicated, specialist officers who can provide support.

"Domestic abuse is not only violence – physical, sexual, emotional or financial abuse, threats and damage are also methods used by perpetrators to control victims.

"We urge anyone concerned about a friend, neighbour or family member to pass us information so we can take action.

"Report concerns by calling 101."

Two charities are quids in thanks to college's fun day

TWO charities are quids in thanks to Oswestry's North Shropshire College and the support of visitors to a fun day.

The college recently held its fourth family fun day which took place at its Oswestry campus.

The money raised on the day has been given to two local charities.

The charities to benefit are CRY for Matthew and the Isabelle Lottie Foundation.

Organisers said the day was a great

Report by Jonny Drury

success, with a wide variety of different attractions to enjoy including a tombola, raffle and animals from the college's Walford campus.

Other attractions included a bouncy castle, face painting, stalls, dance displays and lots of scrumptious food made by staff and students from India, Syria and Romania.

Bosses at the college said they were delighted with the success of the fun day.

Lucy Evans, marketing and customer

service manager at North Shropshire College, said: "We would like to thank everyone who supported the family fun day and helped the college to raise the money for two great causes. We are also delighted to announce that £1,000 was raised in total and this will be split equally between both charities."

There is still time to apply to study at the college for September. For information about full, part-time, and leisure courses visit the website at www.nsc.ac.uk or call (01691) 688000.



The cheques are handed over to the two charities at North Shropshire College

Tragedy at army barracks was suicide

THE death of a young soldier at Deepcut barracks 23 years ago was suicide, a coroner has ruled after a new inquest.

Pte Sean Benton, 20, from Hastings, was found with five gunshot wounds to his chest at the Surrey army base in 1995.

He was the first of four young recruits to die between 1995 and 2002, with his death originally recorded as suicide amid claims of bullying.

Privates Cheryl James, whose parents live in Llanymynech, near Oswestry, James Collinson and Geoff Gray also died from gunshot wounds.

Delivering his conclusions at Woking Coroner's Court, Judge Peter Rook QC said three suicide notes were found after his death. "I'm satisfied that the fatal wounds were self-inflicted," he said.

He said the first round injured the soldier, but that a second round – fired by Pte Benton when two officers arrived at the scene – proved fatal.

Notes to his friends and family were found afterwards, which Mr Rook said revealed his "settled intent to die".

In a note to his parents, Pte Benton said: "I'm sorry, I'll always love you all", while in a note to a friend he said: "Learn by my mistakes."

The coroner described a litany of failures with the original investigation into Pte Benton's death, and said he was hampered by a failure to preserve evidence, poor photographs of the scene, and a lack of scrutiny of eyewitness accounts.

"Even by the standards of 1995, the investigation into Sean's death was woefully inadequate."

Summing up, Mr Rook said: "There was ample evidence available to those at Deepcut that Sean was vulnerable," but "suicidal feelings were not apparent to anyone who saw him that evening".

"It is likely Sean had an emerging emotional personality disorder," he said. The coroner also highlighted a particular failure from senior Deepcut officers which allowed Pte Benton access to the weaponry that ended his life. The new inquest has heard evidence from more than 170 witnesses since it began in January.

It was ordered following a campaign by Pte Benton's family, amid allegations of prolonged bullying at the base. Shortly after the inquest began, the Army apologised to Pte Benton's family and said there were "a number of things that could and should have been better".

The inquest had heard Pte Benton died shortly after being told he was going to be discharged. Former recruits told the hearing of bullying and harassment at the base – at one stage, Pte Benton confided in his sister he had been "shackled" and made to parade around the canteen.

Businesses are targeted in raids

RAIDERS have targeted businesses in Oswestry town centre and on the town's industrial estate.

There were several burglaries and attempted burglaries between 7pm on July 15 and 7am on July 16 on business units at Maes y Clawdd, Maesbury Road Industrial Estate. The police would not identify individual companies but said there were significant thefts and considerable damage.

In the town centre a travel agents in Beatrice Street was broken into overnight on July 12-13. Doors were damaged, a small amount of cash was taken and unsuccessful attempts were made to steal chained charity boxes.

An attempt was made to break into a hair salon in Church Street, Oswestry, between July 13-17. Locks and doors were damaged but no entry was reported.

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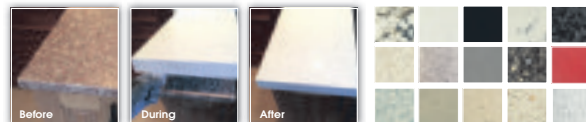
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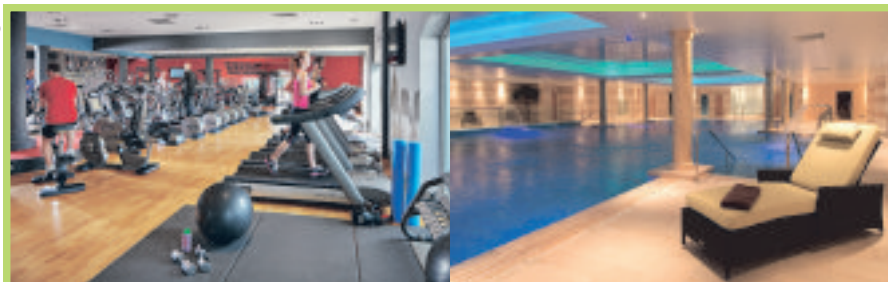
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Something for all

There are plenty of thrills and spills lined up once again for the annual Oswestry and District Agricultural Show.

The show will take place on Saturday, August 4. People from far and wide will gather at the Park Hall Showground to celebrate this prestigious event that dates back to 1862. Not only does the show endorse the best

Commercial feature

of British agriculture it promotes local businesses and activities, countryside pursuits and provides a varied programme of entertainment. President for the 133rd show is Neil Brogden. Local farmer and long standing Show Council member, Nigel

Whittingham is taking on his second year as show chairman. Spectators to the main ring can enjoy a packed programme including judging of horse breeds, parade of vintage vehicles and machinery, inter club young farmer's competitions, and the highlight being a motorbike display by the Jamie Squibb Freestyle Stunt Team sponsored by Ridgway Rentals.



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Unemployment falls again as earnings up

UNEMPLOYMENT has fallen again in Shropshire as the number of people in work and national job vacancies also reached new record levels.

In Shropshire, the numbers claiming benefits including Jobseeker's Allowance and the unemployment element of Universal Credit were down for the second month in a row.

Employment in the UK increased by 137,000 in the quarter to May to 32.4 million, the highest figure since records began in 1971, giving a record rate of 75.7 per cent and job vacancies increased by 7,000 to 824,000 – the most since records began in 2001. For the West Midlands the number in work is up 137,000 on the year.

Nationally unemployment fell by 12,000 to 1.41 million, giving a jobless rate of 4.2 per cent, the joint lowest for more than 30 years, according to the Office for National Statistics. The West Midlands figure was down 2,000 to 141,000, or 4.8 per cent of the working population. Over the course of the last year it has fallen by 25,000.

Average earnings increased by 2.5 per cent in the year to May, compared with 2.4 per cent the previous month.

The claimant count, which includes people on Jobseeker's Allowance and the unemployment element of Universal Credit, increased by 7,800 last month to 898,700, around 97,000 more than a year ago.

For the West Midlands the number of claimants rose by 390 to 100,340, but Shropshire had 50 fewer claimants at 2,255, or 1.2 per cent of the working population.

In Telford & Wrekin the total was down 170 to 1,990 (1.8 per cent) and Powys saw a fall of five to 715 (0.9 per cent).

Neighbouring Staffordshire also saw a fall of 165 to 6,975 (1.3 per cent).

Report reveals the key role of manufacturing

Report by Simon Penfold

THE importance of manufacturing in the West Midlands has been underlined by a report showing it employs 305,000 people in the region – more than one in 10 of the workforce.

The number of highly skilled jobs in the region has grown by 3.7 per cent since 2010 and the West Midlands has the second biggest manufacturing sector in the UK, just behind London and the South East.

It accounts for nearly a fifth of the region's economy – about £19.8 billion – with a total of 14,745 manufacturing companies. The figures, which include Shropshire, are revealed in an annual survey published by accountants BDO and EEF, the manufacturers' organisation.

Charlotte Horobin, region director for EEF in the West Midlands, said: "The report shows that industry continues to have an increasingly vital role to play in the West Midlands. The last year has seen a strong performance with lofty heights being reached in the second half of last year and it is no surprise to see some easing back in the first half of 2018.

"There are well-documented challenges going forward, not least those facing the automotive and construction supply chains. Furthermore, Brexit negotiations have the potential to be a factor in the future performance of manufacturers in the West Midlands."

Farming is a way of life, says Richard



Richard Lloyd, partner at GHP Legal, at the 2017 Oswestry Show

DESPITE clothing, food and wood-burner stands drawing in equally as many families and day trippers as farmers to county agricultural shows these days, the trade tents where lawyers, accountants and agronomists are on hand to offer advice are still as busy as ever.

GHP Legal, one of the region's largest law firms, has been attending the Oswestry Show for many years.

Partner Richard Lloyd, who heads up the agricultural team, says: "Farming isn't just a job, it's a way of life and

its success affects not just businesses but also the future of whole farming communities for generations to come.

"Having the right kind of integrated support and advice to protect businesses, and families, is vital and these days there is a new focus on diversification."

The uncertainty of Brexit can in part be blamed for the diversification Richard talks about.

From niche food production to growing flowers for wedding confetti, farmers are looking for in-roads to a more secure future.

One of the biggest problems they face, however, is a host of restrictive covenants governing the use of their land, something Richard says his firm is receiving a growing number of enquiries about.

"We get enquiries about business property relief (BPR), the employment status of farm workers, succession planning etc.," he says, "but more and more farmers are seeking advice on how they can develop their land – for housing; for self-catering holiday units; for small industrial units to lease out.

"However, restrictive covenants often exist that can prevent such developments and farmers want to know how to remove them."

"More recently the change from Stamp Duty Land Tax (SDLT) to Land Transaction Tax (LTT) that kicked in on April 1, 2018 in Wales has been causing headaches for farmers, particularly where they have cross-border land.

"And of course there is the problem of land registration. Land owned before 1990 that has not since been mortgaged is unlikely to be registered at the Land Registry and farmers need to get it registered asap. If they visit the GHP Legal stand at the Oswestry Show on August 4 we can advise them how to go about it."

Appointment at building company

A BUILDING firm has made a key appointment to support its expansion towards becoming a full service contractor.

Pave Aways, which works predominantly across Shropshire, the West Midlands, Mid and North Wales, has appointed architect Keeley Fox as its first ever in-house design manager.

Keeley, a qualified architect for seven years, has 10 years experience in architecture. She specialises in the education sector and has vast experience in other fields including healthcare, transport and residential.

She has worked for Shropshire firms Baart Harries Newall and AHR, as well as a period at Associated Architects in Birmingham, and is an active member of the Shropshire Society of Architects. Pave Aways also plans to hire a structural engineer so it can offer the full spectrum of services from design through to build and completion. The move is part of its strategy to achieve a target £35m turnover by 2025. The firm, which is based at Knockin, near Oswestry, already employs more than 100 construction and administrative staff. It works across a variety of sectors from education and healthcare to residential and industrial. Clients include the Welsh Assembly, local authorities and higher education establishments such as Harper Adams University, Concord College and other private schools, and manufacturers Airbus, Polytex and Zip-Clip. Managing director Steven Owen said Keeley's appointment was the next step in the firm's planned long-term growth strategy.

Her said: "We first worked with Keeley in 2010 when we undertook the redevelopment of Shrewsbury Fire Station so we are delighted she has joined the Pave Aways team."

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Group members enjoy day out to attraction

Oswestry & Border Chronicle Thursday, July 26, 2018

THE Oswestry group of the Civil Service Retirement Fellowship met for its July meeting at the British Ironwork Centre instead of a formal meeting at the Wynnstay Hotel.

The outing was enjoyed by the members some of whom stayed later for a lunch after exploring the site.

Members were reminded that the summer lunch would be taking place at the Moreton Garden Centre on August 14. A menu will be available at the August meeting and members are asked to confirm places for themselves and guests by calling (01691) 659545 or at that meeting.

The next meeting of the fellowship will be on Tuesday, August 7 at the Wynnstay Hotel, starting as usual after coffee at 10.30am. The speaker is a representative of Age UK, giving advice as to how that organisation can help the "seniors".

The fellowship is a local group for government and other pensioners who are welcome to attend the meetings, which are usually held on the first Tuesday of each month at the Wynnstay Hotel, Oswestry, starting at 10.30am after coffee. There is an annual subscription for those pensioners who are not members of the Civil Service Retirement Fellowship which is £10.

Further details can be obtained from chairman Jan Stokes on (01691) 654380.

Assembly is making strides on diversity

THE National Assembly for Wales has taken more positive steps in being an open and inclusive organisation.

In a year the Assembly was named as the top employer in the UK for LGBT people in the annual Stonewall Workplace index, it also retained its Investors in People gold standard, its National Autistic Society and Action on Hearing Loss Service Excellence Award and was named among the top 30 employers for working families.

The Assembly Commission's latest Diversity and Inclusion Annual Report for 2017-18 highlights the progress made in achieving the Assembly Commission objectives set out in its Diversity and Inclusion Strategy 2016-21.

"I am proud of the Assembly's record on diversity and inclusion and that the concepts of fairness, dignity and respect have always been core principles," said the Llywydd, Elin Jones AM.

"Whilst this report celebrates the work that we have done to be an inclusive organisation, we know that there is always more to do.

"We have not been immune to the distressing incidents which have come to light as a result of the #MeToo and #TimesUp movement."

"We accept our role in this issue and have brought in a number of new measures to empower people to speak out about their experiences at the National Assembly, both now and in the future," the Assembly Member said.

Company steps in to save route

A COACH company has stepped in to save a threatened bus route between Oswestry and Ellesmere.

Lakeside Coaches has applied to the Traffic Commissioner to take over the service that is being vacated by the Tanat Valley Coach company.

The 449 is a direct bus service between the two towns, via Whittington. There is also the 53 service which takes in other villages.

Gareth Davies, a director of Lakeside Coaches, said that if the application to the Traffic Commissioner was successful then the service would take over on September 3, as the old service ended.

"It will not be a subsidised service but a fully commercial one," he said.

"That means that we will be reliant of passengers using the service. It will be sink or swim."

He said the company had seen great success in the takeover of the 501 service between Ellesmere and Shrewsbury two years ago.

"We revitalised that service with new buses and regular drivers," he said.

Political leaders are quizzed by forum of young people over various issues affecting county

Report by Jordan Reynolds

"And yet we've handed over nearly £500 billion to the EU since we joined.

"I'm absolutely convinced that Britain will thrive outside the EU and others will follow us.

"It's brave to be the first to do something, I think Britain has shown a lot of courage."

Another audience member asked what they are doing to encourage employment opportunities in the county.

Mr Nutting said he was working with the university and attended Shrewsbury Colleges Group graduation earlier in the day.

He said: "The problem in Shropshire is the average age is going up faster than almost any

area. You go to college, get a degree and don't necessarily come back.

"The Marches LEP has not got enough young people to sign up to apprenticeships, we're also doing a lot to work with the university in Shrewsbury.

"We're looking at the M54 economic growth corridor too."

The topic of student fees was brought up and Mr Kawczynski told the audience he juggled three jobs whilst at university.

Mr Dalton said: "The principle of tuition fees is right but I don't think the current system is great.

"The reality is most students won't pay it back."

Mr Kawczynski added: "I had three jobs

while I was at university, I cleaned a house on a Saturday and pulled pints over the summer."

Councillor Nutting said: "If you've got a brain you should be earning more than enough to pay the tuition fees back."

Mr Kawczynski said he would like to bring leading businessmen to the county for a Dragons' Den style event.

A 17-year-old audience member asked the panel why the voting age could not be brought down.

Councillor Nutting replied saying there has to be a line drawn somewhere.

Another audience member asked about Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) as he had concerns about cuts to services.

Report by Sue Austin

A SCHOOL sixth form study centre has been named the Jordan Ashley Study Centre in tribute to a student who died aged 20.

The Jordan Ashley Study Centre is an area where Jordan spent much of his time at the Marches Sixth Form in Oswestry.

Staff say current students can be inspired by Jordan's success.

A well as a sign above the doorway, in Jordan's name, the study centre also includes a cabinet, gifted to the school by his family, filled with Jordan's personal belongings, photos, tributes and his posthumous degree.

To celebrate the naming, the Marches School welcomed Jordan's family and friends, as well as staff and students at the Marches for an afternoon to share their memories of him.

Garth Jones, deputy head of sixth form at the Marches School, said that despite having a heart transplant at just seven years old, Jordan was an exceptional student with dreams and aspirations to work in British Aerospace and for NASA, as he excelled in both physics and mathematics in school.

Involved

He was heavily involved in the Business Enterprise Scheme and he received bronze, silver and gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

"In his final year at the Marches School, at the annual presentation evening, Jordan won an unprecedented four prizes on the same evening, winning the Year 13 maths and physics prizes, the president's shield and the Hobo Award for Abundant Enthusiasm."

The student went to Manchester University to study physics with theoretical physics in the School of Physics and Astronomy and received his posthumous degree (with honours) for physics after his death.

His mother Lorraine Ashley said: "For The Marches School to re-name their study centre in honour of our wonderful son, Jordan, is a thoughtful, heart-warming and fitting gesture to a very gifted and popular former student. Both Jordan's brother, Rhys, his father Dave and myself are enormously proud of what this says about Jordan's achievements and the love and respect that many people felt for him during his short life. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved at The Marches School for bringing this about and creating a lasting remembrance to a truly remarkable and lovable young man."

Hospital says thanks to marathon fundraisers



Frank Collins and Bev Tabernacle with runners Ashling Donohoe-Harrison, Victoria Hall, Louis McDonald, Daniel Samuels, Alistair Romei, Norman Roberts, Charles Ashley and Jane Roberts

RUNNERS who took part in this year's London Marathon to raise money for Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital have been thanked.

A special reception, hosted by hospital trust chairman Frank Collins and deputy chief executive Bev Tabernacle, was held at the hospital to honour the fundraisers who took part in the race in April.

Four of the runners were members of staff, while 21 were members of the public who wanted to raise funds for the specialist hospital.

Mr Collins, a former marathon runner himself, said: "Running a marathon is an enormous personal achievement, and on behalf of the trust I want to say a huge thank you to you all.

"Money is still coming in and being totalled up but we're confident our runners have collectively raised a figure of around £50,000.

"All money raised will go into our wider charitable funds post, which is used to support projects across the hospital."

Staff who ran the marathon included pro-

ject manager Louis McDonald, assistant practitioner Victoria Hall, radiography support worker Ashling Donohoe-Harrison and inpatient booking clerk Ben Carter.

Hospital bosses are now looking for runners willing to support and take part in the 2019 London Marathon.

There are around 26 charity places available and anyone interested can find an application form and more information on the dedicated marathon section of the trust website at rjah.nhs.uk/marathon.

Call made for comprehensive reform of social care system

A PROPOSED new income tax to fund elderly social care would be "throwing good money after bad" unless there's radical reform of the whole system, the chairman of Care Forum Wales has said.

The idea for the tax of between one per cent and three per cent was recommended in a report by economist Professor Gerard Holtham which was commissioned by the Welsh Government.

Mario Kreft MBE, the chair of Care Forum Wales which represents nearly 500 social care

providers, welcomed the report as an important contribution to the debate about funding.

Whilst the prospect of extra funding would be welcome, Mr Kreft feared that just pumping more money into the current set-up would not solve the chronic problems besetting the health and social care sector.

He says the only long term answer is a fundamental review to find new and better ways of integrating health and social care.

According to the report, a social care tax could mean people in their 50s would pay four

times more than those in their 20s. Professor Holtham stressed that an unfair burden must not be placed on younger generations in order to subsidise the elderly.

He said: "The steep rise in house prices and the ending of free higher education has left younger generations no better and sometimes worse off than their elders were at the same time of life."

Mr Kreft said: "We certainly welcome the report because we really do need a serious conversation in Wales about how we're going to

fund future care services. It's not just about older people, it's about how we as a society sustain our NHS and community-based services but we can't be too simplistic in our approach.

"Throwing extra money generated by a new tax into the existing pot is not going to solve it. We don't want more of the same – we need a new vision for the future with properly integrated services.

"We've actually got to radically reform the way we deliver services and how we integrate services in Wales."

MP backs police recruitment drive for over 100 officers

A DRIVE to recruit new officers for West Mercia Police has been welcomed.

The police force could have an extra 100 officers in place by the next financial year. Shrewsbury and Atcham MP Daniel Kawczynski and North Shropshire MP Owen Paterson met with police and crime commissioner John Campion to discuss additional police officers.

They also held talks about the potential move of Shrewsbury's police headquarters from Monkmoor to Shirehall.

Mr Kawczynski said he was lobbying Mr

Campion for better facilities for the Shrewsbury-based officers.

He said: "They are in extensive discussions with Shropshire Council to see how this site could be better utilised.

"I'm continuing to lobby him to ensure by the end of the year we have a business plan in place to see how a new police station is going to be funded.

"He was talking about an extra 100 police officers being recruited for our region in the next financial year. The building has got to the stage

where any more spend on it is not cost effective. The building was built in 1972, it's not a good building and we want our police officers to have a state-of-the-art station."

In December, the council's cabinet agreed in principle to the £18.7 million refurbishment of the 1960s Shirehall building.

On completion, there would be open plan work spaces, hot desking and spaces that could be rented out to businesses or partners.

West Mercia Police revealed the extra officers last month, saying it was expecting more

than 600 applications in the first week after advertising the posts.

The recruitment came days after the Shropshire Star revealed overall policing numbers for the force had fallen by more than 300 in the past eight years.

Mr Campion wrote an open letter for the Star, insisted he was committed to ensuring there were enough officers to run the force effectively. He said: "The public want visible, accessible policing focused on resolving the problems in our communities."

Show offers friendly fun



Preparing for Llanfyllin Show are, front, from left, Twm Evans, four and Rosie Jones, three and, back from left, Jack Jones, six, Harri Jones, nine and Gwen Evans, six

SPECTATORS at a popular Mid Wales summer event, which is known as the "friendly show", are in for a treat when Flynn Ryan performs his breathtaking motorcycle stunt show.

Flynn Ryan, alias Ryan Griffiths, is celebrating the 20th anniversary of his spectacular stunt display this year and is set to be the star attraction at Llanfyllin Show on Saturday, August 11.

Daredevil stunts, comedy routines, fire stunts and arena entertainment will be part of the 2pm display and Ryan provides hilarious non-stop commentary, even whilst 30 ft in the air above vehicles.

Tasty Tina will perform alongside Ryan throughout the display which includes huge jumps and freestyle tricks with no landing ramp.

The show, which is held at Bodfach Park by kind permission of the Bodfach Trust and Janet Jones, attracts around 5,000 people and opens at 9am. The last event

in the main ring is terrier racing at 6pm. A highlight of show is the sheep shearing, which brings together some of the best sheep shearers from across Wales.

Other attractions include Porthywaen Silver Band, a vintage machinery display, a fun fair, a Village Green, a Punch and Judy show, children's races and an It's a Knock-out competition.

There are classes for horses, sheep, goats, horticulture, floral art, cookery and crafts and spectators are encouraged to take along their dogs to enter in a dog show and terrier racing. Army Cadets will be on car park duties during the show, which will have a good selection of trade stands and a licensed bar. Sheepdog trials return to the show after a year's absence due to a clash of dates with the Welsh National Sheepdog Trials in 2017. Show president Huw Francis, a local farmer, has been a key figure in organising the sheepdog trials in Llanfyllin with his team of supporters.

Group claims homes need is 'misleading'

THE body that aims to protect the countryside claims Shropshire Council is misleading voters over the need for house building – but bosses at the authority have denied the claim.

The Campaign to Protect Rural England says the presentation of housing figures proposed by Shropshire Council is starkly at odds with reality.

Speaking at the organisation's annual meeting, Charles Green presented an in-depth review of what Shropshire Council claims demonstrates support for its target of 28,750 new houses in the coming 20 years.

He said: "When Shropshire Council published summary results of last year's consultations, we suspected that the figures had been heavily skewed to support its own agenda. The council provided us with its raw data and a root and branch examination of those figures followed.

"Simply, the results of the 2017 consultations show that 88 per cent of the general public and 74 per cent of town and parish councils, prefer a housing target of 26,250 or even lower.

"As a group, it's only agents acting for landowners and developers who favour the highest growth option. We also noticed that the agents' support included multiple and repeated responses. Indeed, in one instance, an agent had submitted 25 identical responses."

In response to the CPRE's claims, Adrian Cooper, Shropshire Council's planning policy and strategy manager, said: "We note the analysis of representations to the Local Plan Review process which has been completed by CPRE. Shropshire Council, as a

Report by Lucy Todman

responsible and democratically representative organisation, must take into account the wider needs of the entire population and other stakeholders, including those who are not as engaged as those who have already contributed views.

"Regarding the specific point that CPRE makes about duplicate responses from planning agents, it is important to recognise that there are a limited number of planning agents in Shropshire and they therefore usually have multiple clients on whose behalf they are responding. It is these clients who are the respondents, rather than the agent submitting the response on their behalf.

"At its meeting on October 18, 2017, Shropshire Council's cabinet considered a range of options for the scale of future housing growth in the county for the period to 2036. Explicit reference was made in the cabinet report to the fact that a majority supported 'moderate' rather than 'high' growth, but Cabinet nevertheless chose to endorse 'high growth' as its preferred option to help to deliver the objectives of its adopted Economic Growth Strategy and Corporate Plan, which seek to tackle some of the key challenges which we face, including access to more affordable housing.

"This has been published in the documents following the consultation. The nationally-prescribed Local Plan review process provides the most appropriate mechanism for anyone who disagrees with the council's preferred approach to challenge it by making formal representations regarding the 'soundness' of the plan, and to have such representations considered by an independent planning inspector."

Midwife chief admits closures of rural units were 'expected'

SHROPSHIRE'S head of midwifery has admitted health bosses knew there would be further closures of midwife-led units when they reopened the county's rural maternity units to births at the start of the year.

Sarah Jamieson said there were risks of closures because 98 per cent of women were choosing to give birth at the consultant-led unit at the Princess Royal Hospital in Telford and the two midwife-led units in Shrewsbury and

Wrekin during the six-month suspension of births at Oswestry, Bridgnorth and Ludlow.

But she added that Shrewsbury and Telford Hospitals (SaTH) Trust had to "make good" on its promise that the units would be fully open from January 1.

Health bosses had agreed to suspend births at the three units because of a shortage of staff and had hoped to address that during the closure period.

But the start of this year has seen sickness increase and a series of short-term suspension of births at all three units with the current view to continue this until the end of September and beyond.

They are still open for pre and post-natal care.

Mrs Jamieson said: "We knew the likely risk was the volume of women giving birth at the consultant-led unit and the two larger midwife-led units."

Church schools must 'adapt for the future'

THERE are no plans to close Church of England schools in Shropshire – but they must join forces to survive in the future.

The Lichfield diocese, which covers most of the county, says small rural schools must find imaginative ways to move forward.

A report has been published with recommendations that states "small rural schools could not continue to operate as stand-alone units", and stressing a need for them to "come together in formal groupings".

The Embracing Change: Rural and Small Schools report adds: "Where a school's budget is under pressure and numbers are low, it can be difficult to justify a decision to keep a school open when significant investment would be required."

A spokesman for Lichfield Diocese has since added that schools need to build "strong partnerships" to ensure "excellent educational provision".

He said: "Church schools are a key feature in many communities across Shropshire, including rural areas.

"There are no 'proposals' to close rural schools but a report of recommendations for all dioceses, including Lichfield, and small schools to look more effectively at resourcing and measuring success. This means schools cannot work in isolation but need to build strong partnerships."

Councillor meets PM at Number 10

A LEADING councillor has been representing Shropshire on a visit to Number 10 Downing Street.

Steve Charmley, Shropshire Council's deputy leader and portfolio holder for corporate and commercial support, was a guest at the Prime Minister's residence on Monday evening last week.

The Whittington representative was invited to attend the reception for Midlands Conservative associations.

During the visit Councillor Charmley said he had spoken with Theresa May about her recent summit with US President Donald Trump, and her ongoing battle to balance the political difficulties of negotiating Brexit. Councillor Charmley said: "I managed to get a meeting and a quick chat with the Prime Minister. It was very informal but I asked how she got on with Mr Trump and went through Brexit."

The Conservative councillor said that Mrs May had remained tight lipped on her thoughts over the controversial president.

He said: "She said it was a very interesting meeting and that he has got some very interesting ideas. She did not give any examples away though, as you would expect. "It was nice to be introduced, and to represent Shropshire."

The meeting was attended by a number of MPs, including Home Secretary Sajid Javid.

Councillor Charmley added: "It was a good opportunity to promote the county and to champion what we are planning to do." The deputy leader said it was also a chance to invite other authorities to visit Shropshire to see the work the council is doing.

Protest on school at council's base

A PROTEST was held outside a council's headquarters over the planned closure of an English-medium primary school near Oswestry.

Wrexham Council plans to close Ysgol Pontfadog in August next year, claiming there is a low demand for English-language education in the area.

However, campaigners say the area is mainly English-speaking and there is a need for an English-medium school.

There are 18 pupils at the school in Pontfadog.

Campaigner Jools Payne, who is a Glyntraian community councillor, said: "It's really important English-medium is maintained at this school.

"The vast majority of people who live in the Ceiriog Valley, according to the 2011 census, are predominantly English-speaking at home.

"We're not anti-Welsh, we're pro-fairness."

Police force is looking for more volunteers

DYFED-POWYS Police is offering the chance to join its team of volunteers as the face of police stations across the force.

Bosses at the force say more than 100 volunteers currently dedicate some of their spare time to various roles in the police – from Special Constables and cadets, to chaplains and victim support officers.

And the force is now opening up the position of public enquiry officer (PEO) to its list of volunteering opportunities for the first time.

PEOs are needed at stations across the force, and will provide support to officers and staff for up to eight hours a week, bosses say.

They will deal with enquiries from members of the public, police officers and staff in person and over the phone; receive, record and process enquiries relating to lost and found property; and support designated property officers at the station they are based in.

They will also be required to monitor station security and CCTV where applicable; ensure visitors are correctly recorded; and provide general administration and support.

Volunteers will not be expected to open or close stations – they will only be on duty when an officer is at the station.

Superintendent Robyn Mason, force lead for citizens in policing, said: "We have close links with our communities across

Dyfed-Powys, and we would like to strengthen these by having volunteers based at some of our stations.

"The new volunteer PEOs will provide a vital link between the force and the towns we serve, and will act as the face of Dyfed-Powys Police in the station they are based.

"In return, we will be providing new skills and experience to our volunteers, who might be looking to apply for employment in the future, taking a career break or looking to give back during their retirement years."

For an application form, email volunteers@dyfed-powys.pnn.police.uk or phone Citizens in Policing coordinator Adele Jones on (01267) 226463

Challenges for Assembly flagged up

THE National Assembly for Wales Commission has published its annual report detailing its progress and achievements, as well as addressing some challenging events in 2017-18.

The Auditor General for Wales has signed off the Assembly Commission's accounts for the year ended March 31, 2018.

There have also been challenging times for the Assembly during the past year, including the death of former First Minister Rhodri Morgan and the death of sitting Assembly Member Carl Sargeant.

A new dignity and respect policy was introduced after allegations of inappropriate behaviour and harassment came to light. The new policy makes it easier for people working for or with Assembly Members and the institution to report incidents in confidence. "This last year has brought with it a number of challenges for the Assembly," said Elin Jones AM, Llywydd of the National Assembly for Wales. Politically, the changing constitutional landscape, as a result of the UK's decision to leave the European Union, has required our Parliament to respond in an effective and agile manner in the interest of Welsh citizens.

"There have also been a number of personal challenges for Members, not least with the death of our colleague, Carl Sargeant. Throughout it all, the National Assembly has shown great resilience and courage and has remained steadfast in its determination, not only to meet its priorities but also to continue to improve the way we work."

£900k contract to run refugee service in area

A NEW organisation is being sought for a £900,000 contract to run Shropshire's refugee resettlement service.

The current contract for the service is set to expire in September, and now the council is asking organisations interested in running the service to get in touch.

The authority has previously been commended for its work in providing a safe environment for the refugees.

A tender document published by the council sets out the criteria for the next contract, which will run until September 2019. The document states: "Shropshire Council currently holds a contract for refugee services with an existing provider which expires on September 30. However the council has further funding for these services and now wishes to appoint a provider for a combined Syrian Refugee Resettlement and Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) service from October 1 when the next Syrian families are now due to arrive."

"At the moment funding is available for the resettlement and support of 10 Syrian families in Shropshire to September 30, 2019, and for the UASC service to March 31."

Abuse of child is condemned

THE NSPCC has condemned a 77-year-old sex offender who was jailed for abusing a child over a period of four years.

Christopher Moore-Bridger was jailed for two years and nine months after admitting his crimes.

Moore-Bridger, of Orchard Street, Oswestry, pleaded guilty to five counts of indecent assault against a boy who was in the choir at Moore-Bridger's church. The NSPCC welcomed the jail sentence, which came after the victim killed himself earlier this year.

Jack Furness from the children's charity said: "This tragic case shows the devastating impact that child sexual abuse can have on victims through their adult life."

There is an NSPCC helpline, 24/7, on 0800 800 5000, while Childline is there for young people on 0800 1111 or via childline.org.uk.

Picture focus



Vehicles from various eras made their way to the rally



The best in show prize went to Tom Riley, pictured with Clive Knowles and Harry Richardson



Proud owners of Minis took part in the charity fundraiser

Transport rally turns out to be another classic show

Report by Jonny Drury

ORGANISERS of Oswestry's fourth annual Classic and Vintage Transport Rally say the event was another success.

The event was held at the British Ironwork Centre at Aston.

Clive Knowles from the centre said: "The day brought together an amazingly diverse mix of over 330 classic and vintage vehicles including cars, steam engines, bikes, buses, stationary engines, and even military vehicles."

"In aid of Hope House, all money donated upon entry to the transport rally will provide the charity with the funding needed to continue to do their amazing work."

"The exceptional array of vehicles meant that there was something there for every spectator, no matter how young or old, to enjoy."

"Exhibitors stood proudly beside their vehicles, car enthusiasts were amazed by what we had on display, and children were fascinated by the rainbow of colours and brightly shining metals speckled across our grounds."

Enormous

"The cavalcade was an enormous success. Each exhibitor did a circuit around the site providing a spectacular display for all of the marvelled on-lookers and the perfect opportunity for our judges to pick the award winners."

"Each of our exhibitors and their co-pilots were treated to a delicious complimentary barbecue, ice-creams, and refreshments along with a unique exhibitor gift."

"In addition to the wonderful spectacle put on by our exhibitors, our working blacksmith, silversmith and potter were all present to give free demonstrations of working methods and to offer advice on how to get involved. Our visitors thoroughly enjoyed this and hopefully left the site with all of their craft questions answered."

"In conjunction with the money raised for Hope House, we also had two other charities present at our rally. Shrewsbury Town in the Community had a stall set up to raise funds for the Osborne Trust, and Oswestry Guide Dogs was also present to raise much needed funds for the training of all-important guide dogs."

"We'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone that got involved, including all exhibitors and their amazing vehicles, and all of those that joined us here as spectators."

Details on next year's transport rally and the funds raised for Hope House Children's Hospice this year will be announced soon."



Classic vehicles were on display for all to enjoy



Sculptures stood alongside some of the vehicles



All types of vehicles were on show at the rally



Lorries from various eras were at the show to raise money for charity

PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY
GUIDE TO HOME
BUYING AND
LETTING

21
Oswestry & Border Chronicle
Thursday, July 26, 2018

Semi-detached home in village is a charming property

A well presented three-bedroomed semi-detached house, 15 Trehowell Lane, Weston Rhyn, Oswestry, is a charming property for sale through Morris Marshall & Poole at £149,950 with no chain.

Its well proportioned accommodation briefly comprises an entrance hall, a lounge, a dining room, a kitchen, three bedrooms and a bathroom. The property has gas central heating and enclosed gardens, plus off road parking. It lies in a convenient location close to the village school. In more detail the front door is protected with a porch canopy. The entrance hall has laminate flooring and stairs off to the first floor. The lounge has a double glazed window to the front, a decorative fire surround, laminate flooring and glazed double doors to the dining room. The dining room has double glazed patio doors to the rear garden and laminate flooring.

The kitchen is fitted with a range of wood-effect kitchen units comprising of base, wall and tall larder cupboards, a built-in gas hob, electric oven and hob, sink unit, appliance spaces, tiled splash-backs, tiled flooring, a pantry cupboard and an exit door to side.

There is a wall mounted gas central heating boiler. The landing has a double glazed window to the side and a built-in airing cupboard. Bedroom one has a double glazed window to front and built-in pine wardrobes. Bedroom two has a double glazed window to the rear.

Bedroom three has a double glazed window to the rear. The bathroom has a white suite comprising of a P-shaped bath with a shower above and a glazed screen, wash hand basin and a WC. The room has tiled walls and flooring, a chrome heated towel rail and a double glazed window to the front.

Outside, the house is set on a corner plot with an enclosed garden to the front, side and rear. The front and side are lawned with pathways and vehicle driveway for parking.

The rear garden is landscaped with patio and gravel, pergola and garden shed.

KEY FEATURES

Semi-detached home
Three bedrooms
Corner plot.
Off road parking
Gardens

WESTON RHYN

£149,950



TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: Morris Marshall & Poole

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17th century home offers highly flexible accommodation

HOPE
£725,000

Little Hope, at Hope, Leighton near Welshpool is a 17th century cottage that has undergone a large extension.

Currently run as a bed and breakfast business, its flexible layout means it also provides for two co-habiting families, with separate quarters. In a design which flows with exceptional clarity and focus as a property with an option for two halves, it is for sale through Balfours at £725,000.

The main cottage comprises a porch, a large sitting room with an inglenook fireplace, woodburner and French doors. Adjacent is the library with glazing and views to two aspects and the study – a cosy hideaway. The morning room is the central point of the ground floor from which the stairs ascend to three bedrooms and a family bathroom. Beyond the morning room, the dining room is partially open plan to the kitchen, achieving a fabulous social space



with sleek contemporary fixtures in the kitchen. A second study, cloakroom/WC and utility complete the ground floor accommodation.

Duncan Scobie of Balfours, said: "Evelyn and Mike Gregory have nurtured Little Hope to create a fresh and spacious home, together with a highly successful bed and breakfast business. The latter is run as Long Mountain Bed and Breakfast, which has received many awards and certificates of excellence, from Visit Wales and Trip Adviser. The guest accommodation reflects this, it provides three spacious double bedrooms, one with an en-suite bathroom and the other two with en-suite shower rooms. A large guest dining/lounge spanning nearly six metres square and an independent guest kitchen allow the guest accommodation to be run totally separately; or for an extended family to enjoy."

Contact Balfours on 01743 353511.



Stunning farmhouse enjoys superb views over valley

LLANRHAeadR
£400,000 >>>

Clynog, Llanrhaeadr Ym Mochnant near Oswestry is a stunning Grade II listed farmhouse in an elevated position.

It is for sale through Bowen Son & Watson at £400,000.

The property is situated on the outskirts of the picturesque village of Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant close to the confluence of the rivers Tanat and Rhaeadr in the stunning Berwyn Mountains and near Pistyll Rhaeadr.

The property has a reception hall, music room, sitting room, dining room, kitchen lounge, kitchen, utility room, rear lobby, coal house, gallery landing, a loft storage room, integral garage, gun room, five first floor bedrooms, a family bathroom, five attic rooms, large gardens and an orchard/paddock.

Call Bowen Son & Watson on 01691 652367 for more details about the home or to arrange a viewing.



Detached house with valley views comes with a large decked area

GARTH
£374,950 <<<

An individual detached house with valley views and first floor open plan living, Tyn-Y-Pistyll at Garth, Glyn Ceiriog, comes with a large timber decked area, landscaped gardens and woodland.

It is for sale through Morris Marshall & Poole at £374,950. Briefly the property comes with three bedrooms, a shower room and a bathroom.

A turning timber-built staircase rises up from the entrance hall to the upper level lobby with a tiled floor and external door to the rear.

Access leads through to the living area which has a multi-fuel stove fitted to the slate built fireplace, being dual aspect with a large picture window to the rear and concealed radiators. An open plan approach leads through to the dining/kitchen.

Contact Morris Marshall & Poole on 01691 679595 for more information.

Home occupies quiet elevated cul-de-sac position in village

PANT
£350,000 >>>

Occupying a quiet elevated cul-de-sac position within the village of Pant near Oswestry, 3 Edwards Close is convenient for local facilities such as modern primary school, post office and shop, pub and renowned golf club.

3 Edwards Close is on the market through JJ Dell & Co with a guide price of £350,000.

The home is an individually designed detached four bedroomed house.

The property has a spacious entrance hall, living room, dining room, breakfast kitchen, utility and cloakroom. The master bedroom is ensuite and there are three further bedrooms and a family bathroom. The property has a double garage and ample parking.

There are gardens to the front and a patio and garden to the rear.

For more details contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437.



Home in secluded location has won numerous awards

BREADEN HEATH
£750,000

Best Country Home Award 2017 with Period Living Magazine and the "most amazing tiny cottage in the UK" are just two of the titles bestowed on Wood Farm House and Turtledove Hideaway.

The two properties currently provide a four bedroom farmhouse and one bedroom cottage within the steading; however they are on the market with planning to extend the farmhouse by up to 49 per cent and complete the conversion of an additional barn into holiday accommodation. Located at Breaden Heath, six miles from Ellesmere and eight to Whitchurch, in a secluded rural location, Wood Farm House has been renovated and remodelled to provide an "of the moment" home that has won numerous awards, with the cottage featured in 24 international magazines. Agent, Charlie Giffard of Balfours, reflects: "It is not difficult to see why it has won so many accolades. Both internally and externally the vendor has achieved a total charm with absolute attention to detail finishing to an exacting standard."



Briefly the farmhouse provides an entrance hall, drawing room, dining area, study, kitchen, utility, and a family room which opens to a decked terrace. First floor accommodation provides two en-suite bedrooms and family shower room for two additional bedrooms. Turtledove Hideaway is currently let as holiday accommodation however it would equally suit as an annex, or office. The ground floor is open plan, with one bedroom on the first floor. A second ground floor barn conversion holiday cottage is 75 percent complete. There is a good sized garden with mature trees and in character with the timber framed farmhouse. Wood Farm House is marketed with a guide price of £750,000.

For more information call Charlie Giffard on 01743 353511 or visit www.balfours.co.uk



Detached Victorian period family home has large garden

OSWESTRY
£450,000 <<<

A detached Victorian period family home, Leeswood in Morda Road, Oswestry lies in a popular location within easy walking distance of the town centre.

Coming with a large garden including a former tennis court, it is for sale through Morris Marshall & Poole at £450,000.

The accommodation briefly comprises a porch, entrance hallway, lounge, morning room, sun room, dining room, cloakroom/shower room, five bedrooms, two being en-suite, an impressive main bathroom, three spacious reception rooms, a hand made kitchen and utility room, a driveway, detached garage and gardens.

In more detail the entrance hallway has a herringbone woodblock floor, panelled walls and a traditional spindled staircase.

Contact Morris Marshall & Poole on 01691 679595 for more details and to arrange a viewing.



24 Hundreds of apprenticeships to be created

Oswestry & Border Chronicle Thursday, July 26, 2018

UP to £70 million will be spent on boosting skills following a deal announced between the Government and the West Midlands Combined Authority.

The cash will go towards creating hundreds of new apprenticeships at small and medium-sized businesses across the region. Money will also go towards colleges ensuring they have the latest equipment to teach skills needed, including in digital and construction. Both Shropshire and Telford are associate members of the West Midlands Combined Authority.

Education Secretary Damian Hinds said: "The West Midlands is the engine of our thriving economy, but we want to make sure even more local people have the skills they need to get on in life, while also boosting the region's productivity and technical expertise. This new skills deal will provide the right investment so that both young people and adults have the chance to learn, upskill, retrain and take advantage of the range of exciting jobs in areas such as construction, cyber security and digital technology. By supporting apprenticeships in small and medium-sized businesses, more people will be able to earn and learn and the focus on digital and technical skills, which are both in high demand, will help people to get the skills they need to get the jobs of tomorrow."

Businesses inspired by future tech

VISITORS to a conference were given an insight into how technology may help solve many of the challenges faced by councils and businesses across the UK.

Organised by Shropshire Council, the TECH Severn 2018 Conference attracted influential speakers from across the globe when it was held at Theatre Severn in Shrewsbury.

Hundreds of delegates from across the UK heard how the latest innovations may transform their organisations' approach to technology and how this technology could help them save costs and time, and possibly even lives in the future.

Headlining the event was Tomorrow's World presenter, Maggie Philbin OBE. She said: "TECH Severn is a great opportunity to see how technology can tackle key challenges being experienced by an increasing ageing and vulnerable population."

Maggie was joined by the Rt Hon Paul Burstow, Dr Kevin Doughty, Sheila Mackintosh and Daniel Rowles and a host of other speakers and exhibitors at the event, which also heard how technology has progressed.

Andy Begley, director of adult services and housing at Shropshire Council, said: "TECH Severn is not just a business gathering, we are providing delegates with insights into what the future holds for all types of businesses and how technology will shape our lives, work and businesses." Attendees were able to join in the many activities during the day.

River work set to protect fish

WORK has started on a £19 million project to reopen the River Severn to protected species of fish.

The £19.7 million project is one of the largest of its kind ever attempted in Europe.

Funding comes from £10.8 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and £6 million from the European Union LIFE programme.

It will reopen 158 miles of the River Severn to fish, by creating routes around physical barriers that currently prevent migration to critical spawning grounds.

The team behind the plan say it will help to secure the long-term future of many of the UK's declining and protected fish species, particularly the now threatened twaite and allis shad which hundreds of years ago were a staple food in the court of Henry III.

Many of the species became extinct in the upper reaches of the River following the installation of locks and weirs required to allow navigation that powered the Industrial Revolution. State of the art fish passes will now be installed.

Number of legally held guns in the West Mercia Police area increases significantly in 10 years

Report by Dominic Robertson

THE number of legally held guns in the region has increased significantly over the last decade.

Newly released figures from the Home Office show that in March this year, there were 25,086 licensed firearms in the West Mercia Police force area, up from 19,122 in 2009.

The number excludes shotguns, which are licensed separately.

It means there are 1,993 firearms for every 100,000 people in West Mercia, an increase of 26 per cent from March 2009 when local records were first collated. It is the highest rate at any point over the last decade.

In total, 7,171 valid firearm licences in West Mercia covered an average of 3.5 guns each. There were a further 67,651 licensed shotguns in the area – a decrease on a decade ago.

In Dyfed-Powys there were 13,129 licensed firearms, up from 11,593 in 2009. There were 35,787 licensed shotguns, again a fall on the number recorded 10 years ago.

Gill Marshall-Andrews, chairwoman of the Gun Control Network, said that society should be working towards fewer guns, and that the rise in legal firearms was difficult to explain.

She said: "We campaign strongly for tighter licensing laws and those have been introduced, by and large. It is becoming more difficult to get a gun licence, so I have no idea why it has gone up."

"Unless we are going to say that nobody

should have a gun – and we have never said that – you should have a good reason to own a gun, and you should be a proper person. The guidance is stricter and the licensing regulations, if properly applied, should mean that fewer people have a gun.

"For years and years, the shooting lobby has said that gun crime it is just a matter of illegal weapons, but it is not true to say that gun deaths are related to illegal weapons alone."

Between April 2017 and March this year, there were 622 new applications for firearm licences in West Mercia. Of those, 98 per cent were granted, and just 12 were refused. A further 1,586 licences were renewed. Just four licences were revoked.

In Dyfed-Powys there were 259 new appli-

cations for the licences, with 96 per cent were granted, and 10 refused. A total of 884 licences were renewed and 14 were revoked.

The firearm rate in West Mercia was higher than that across England and Wales, where 578,000 firearms – 989 for every 100,000 people – were licensed.

In 2016-17, the most recent year for which numbers are available, there were 31 fatal shootings in England and Wales. Altogether, there were nearly 10,000 offences in which firearms were reported to have been used.

Of those, 58 took place in West Mercia and 16 in Dyfed-Powys.

Many gun crimes involve the use of illegal firearms, either weapons converted to fire live ammunition, or restored antiques.

Report by Dominic Robertson

MORE and more young adults across the region are spurning cigarettes and choosing not to smoke, new figures have revealed.

Data from the Office for National Statistics shows that the percentage of the population in Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin and Powys who have never smoked has risen by 29 per cent, 52 per cent, and 28 per cent respectively since 2011.

This change in the figures is because 18 to 24-year-olds are choosing not to smoke. Nationally the 18 to 24 age group has had the biggest drop in smoking.

Last year, across Britain, 17.8 per cent of 18 to 24-year-olds said they were current smokers, compared with 2011 when more than a quarter smoked. Deborah Arnott, Action on Smoking and Health chief executive, has put the reduction down to banning tobacco advertising.

Warnings

She said: "The brightly coloured pack displays we used to have in shops disappeared completely in 2015 and the packs they do see nowadays are a sludgy green colour, with large picture warnings, rather than the brightly coloured, highly branded packs we used to have."

"Is it any wonder young people today increasingly choose not to smoke? It's much less cool than it used to be."

This drop has also been helped by the rise of people using e-cigarettes. The ONS estimates there are 2.8 million vapers in Britain, and almost half said their reason for taking it up was to stop smoking. Overall the proportion of smokers in the region has gone down since 2011.

At that time 16.1 per cent of Shropshire's population smoked, however by 2017 the number had dropped to 14 per cent. In Telford the figure has gone from 24.7 per cent to 16.5 per cent, and in Powys from 20per cent to 14.1 per cent.

Men are more likely to smoke than women in all three areas and smoking rates across the country are down overall.

Ms Arnott continued: "But smoking must become history for all of society not just for the wealthy."

"Cuts in public health funding and lack of treatment for smoking on the NHS mean poorer more heavily addicted smokers, including those who are pregnant, are not getting the help they need to quit."

New work of art is created to defy vandals



The colourful mural is painted on the boarded up window of the Music Makers shop after the vandalism attack

OWNERS of a music shop have bounced back from a vandal attack to turn a boarded up window into a work of art.

The Music Makers shop in Church Street, Oswestry had its window smashed in an attack on July 12, just hours before the arrival on the Heart of England in Bloom judges in the town.

Owner, Andrew Dyke and manager, Dan Deakin were gutted, having put up a hanging basket and decorated the shop window for the

judges' tour of the town. After the window was boarded up Andrew's daughter, Jennifer, and family friend, Gill Lloyd rolled up their sleeves and created a large, colourful mural.

Mr Dyke said the vandalism must have taken place sometime after 10.30pm on July 12 and has appealed for anyone who saw anything to contact police.

He said: "We hope that the mural, with its yellow and orange colour scheme and musical

instruments, will cheer the road up. It was painted as the food festival was on in the town and we had a lot of compliments.

"It could not have happened as a worse possible time for the town, but we hope that we have created something positive out of a negative."

"The window will eventually be replaced, we hope people appreciate our artwork in the meantime."

Government 'must learn from childcare pilot project'

THE Welsh Government must learn lessons from the current childcare offer pilot in Wales and implement them before national roll out of the £100 million a year scheme, according to a National Assembly for Wales committee.

The Children, Young People and Education Committee has published its Committee Report on the general principles of the Childcare Funding (Wales) Bill.

Committee chair Lynne Neagle AM said: "We welcome the steps taken by the Welsh Government to legislate to make it easier for parents

to apply for the childcare offer. However, we are concerned about the extent to which the proposed national childcare offer, facilitated by this Bill and being piloted in different areas of Wales at the moment, targets those most in need of support."

"We agree with the Welsh Government that creating a national eligibility checking system, to be administered by HMRC, should make it more straight forward for parents to apply, and ease the administrative burden on local authorities."

"However, we are concerned that restricting the Bill's provisions to the children of working parents risks increasing the gap that already exists between our most disadvantaged and advantaged children in terms of their development and educational attainment."

"For this reason, we recommend that the Bill be amended to extend its provisions beyond working parents, to include parents who are seeking work by undertaking education and training linked to securing employment."

"We also think the Welsh Government

should amend the Bill to enable other categories of parent to be included in the future."

"We are also worried that focusing the offer on three and four-year-olds will hinder the Bill's stated aim of getting parents, particularly mothers, back to work."

The AM added: "With the Welsh Government's own National Survey for Wales finding that the demand for childcare is highest between the ages of 1 and 3, we think consideration should be given to reviewing the target age group for the offer."

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Issue 22...



NEWS

WIN TICKETS!

Take a look inside the weird and wonderful world of Farmer Phil's Festival, and enter a competition to win tickets to this year's event.

OUTDOORS

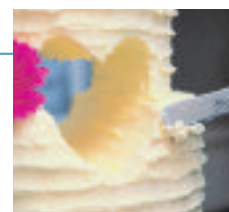
An Oswestry photographer has been recognised in a national competition – see her beautiful shot in Shropshire Weekly.

EVENTS

Burwarton Show is one of the highlights of Shropshire's agricultural calendar. We preview this year's event inside this week's edition.

FOOD

Wedding season is upon us, so we meet a woman with a knack for cake making.



REVIEWS

The best places to eat, the picks of what's on television, films heading to Shropshire cinemas, and another great day out comes under the microscope.

PLUS JEREMY CORBYN | DROUGHT
DAN NIGHTINGALE | CINEMA
LUNAR ECLIPSE | A VICAR'S LIFE
AFRICAN SCHOOLS | FARMERS' PAY
THE HIGH STREET | LUNAR ECLIPSE
MICHELLE OWEN | SUMMER CLUBS

ON SALE FRIDAY

26 Health group is now almost £60m in the red

Oswestry & Border Chronicle Thursday, July 26, 2018

THE organisation that commissions health services in Shropshire has entered the new financial year with a deficit of almost £60 million.

Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) built up a deficit of £27.1m last financial year, which has been added to the previous total deficit of £32.6m, meaning the amount in the red is now £59.7m.

The group failed to meet its target set by NHS England of a deficit of £19.4m in the financial year 2017/18, with an overspend of more than £7m.

"In contrast Telford's CCG currently has no deficit, and is carrying forward a £6.9m surplus.

Simon Freeman, accountable officer of Shropshire CCG, said: "That largely came about because of issues in the accounting of various finances including continuing healthcare.

"Any overspend is a concern, but I think there there are reasons why that happened that are understandable and explainable.

"The money will get added to our cumulative deficit which we will have to pay in due course. It'll be better this year."

"Our plan for this financial year is to get to a control total of a deficit of £13.3m.

"We've got to present to NHS England a long term financial plan which demonstrates how we will repay that money."

Tough winter caused a cash overspend

SHROPSHIRE Council overspent on its winter services by hundreds of thousands of pounds this year.

But the authority had a winter maintenance reserve to fall back on after the heavy snowfall between December and March. The news comes as it was revealed the council's road services may be affected this winter by pressures on the budget.

The current winter service budget is just more than £3 million. Discussions are ongoing as reductions to the budget were imposed from April this year, which could put pressure on the service later in the year.

Winter service deals with regular, frequent and "reasonably predictable" events like low temperatures, ice and snow, as well as exceptional events.

Shropshire Council's place overview committee discussed the winter service at a meeting.

Steve Brown, who works in the council's transport and highways department, said: "We do use social media but that could be enhanced as well.

"Obviously the winter that has passed caused severe pressures and we're still dealing with the backwash of that to this day.

"We had staff work 24 hours a day through the night.

"On average we come across a winter like that every six or seven years.

"There are improvements that we need to make but we need to constrain that within the budget."

AM impressed by plastic project

ASSEMBLY Member Ken Skates visited a primary school to hear how children are tackling the growing problem of plastic pollution.

Clwyd South AM Mr Skates spent time with pupils at Ysgol Sant Dunawd in Bangor-on-Dee to hear more about the work Year 6 youngsters are doing to help raise awareness of the issue as part of this term's 'Blue Planet' topic.

"Plastic pollution is one of the biggest environmental issues in the world today, so I'm very pleased to see our young people play their part in trying to tackle it," said Mr Skates.

"As part of their campaign, the children have been litter-picking and reduced the amount of plastic packaging they use in school, especially single-use water bottles, and surveyed local businesses about what they are doing to help."

The Dosbarth Tryfan class gave Mr Skates a presentation, which he described as 'superb'.

Mr Skates added: "It was extremely well researched. The children told me some shocking facts and figures."

Alert for lake as dry spell drags on and bosses issue advice on how to save water

LAKE Vyrnwy is at the centre of a new water alert as the long hot summer continues.

It is one of the water sources for the north west, where a hosepipe ban is being put in place.

The lake, near Llanfyllin, supplies Liverpool with much of its water.

Water company United Utilities announced the ban would come into force on August 5 for its seven million customers after what is believed to be the longest heatwave since 1976.

Within hours of the announcement last week, heavy showers swept across the region.

Lake Vyrnwy remains around 80 per cent full, although that is 10 per cent less than this time last year.

While water runs short in the north west,

Report by Lucy Todman

there are no immediate plans for restrictions in Shropshire.

Severn Trent says its reservoirs are healthy, despite problems that have seen some areas lose their water supply because of high demand.

It emerged last week that a number of reports have been made to Severn Trent in Whitchurch concerning a general water supply issue, particularly around the Wrexham Road and Church Street area and engineers were working to resolve the issue.

Severn Trent says it is continuing to ask customers in the region to cut their water consumption during the hot spell.

One suggestion is to skip baths – and to make sure that showers last for no more than four minutes.

Doug Clarke, of Severn Trent, said: "Demand for water is massively up thanks to several weeks of extremely hot weather.

"While we have lots of water available and our reservoir levels are healthy and we're putting millions of extra litres of water into the system, people are using water as fast as we can treat and pump it into supply.

"This is particularly the case during peak demand in the morning and evenings when we want to ask customers to restrict their supply so we can avoid areas of low pressure."

Martin Padley, United Utilities water services director, said: "Despite some recent rain-

fall, reservoir levels are still lower than we would expect at this time of year and, with forecasters predicting a return to hot, dry weather for the rest of July, we are now at a point where we will need to impose some temporary restrictions on customers.

"It is not a decision we have taken lightly and we are enormously grateful to customers for having helped reduce the demand on our network over the last couple of weeks, but unless we get a period of sustained rainfall before August 5 these restrictions will help us safeguard essential water supplies for longer."

The operation of the industry, privatised by Margaret Thatcher in 1989, is coming under increasing scrutiny, with Labour vowing to re-nationalise water if elected.

Task group will look at how local roads can be made safer

Report by Jordan Reynolds

A STUDY group will be formed to look at how to make Shropshire's roads safer.

The number of crashes in the county has stayed at about 600 a year in recent years.

But councillors on Shropshire Council's performance management scrutiny committee say the roads are a "real problem" and asked for the issue to be looked at. Councillor Roger Evans, for Longden, said: "We've got a problem in Shropshire, a real, real problem which we need to actually do something about. Our residents are getting killed and seriously injured. We would not be doing the right thing for our residents if we don't look at this in some depth, we need a task and finish group."

Councillor Gwilym Butler, for Cleobury Mortimer, told the committee that it was about educating people. He said: "The Safer Roads Partnership is the biggest bureaucratic nightmare I've ever seen in my life.

Policy

"It has the same policy for Dudley and Shrewsbury town centre as it does for Clun.

"A lot of this is about education. Whenever I read about fatalities they're usually people from Dudley or Cardiff but going through Shropshire.

"Shouldn't we be talking with our neighbouring councils about educating their residents about our roads?"

The scrutiny meeting was discussing an analysis of slight, serious and fatal road traffic accidents that went to cabinet recently.

Tom Dodds, Shropshire Council's information, intelligence and insight manager, said of the report: "West Mercia Police changed to the 'Crash' system in December 2015.

"This approach uses a prescribed set of conditions to determine the scale of severity for casualties and relies less on the judgement of police officers.

"It is likely that the reporting of injury severity is now more consistent and accurate, consequently this has shown an increase.

"A noticeable increase in the number of people recorded in the figures for seriously injured in 2016 occurred at the same time as the new methodology was implemented.

"The increase in Shropshire has been 23 per cent, but the number of all road traffic accidents in Shropshire has remained consistent at roughly 600 per year."

Craft experts to show off their skills at gallery



Hand weaver Sue Christian will be one of the makers demonstrating at the event at the Willow Gallery in Oswestry

VISITORS to the Willow Gallery in Oswestry have a chance to explore highly individual work by 17 of Shropshire's most skilled craft makers.

People are being invited to visit the gallery on Saturday from 11am to 2pm with demonstrations and a chance to meet the makers and ask questions.

Members of Shropshire Guild of Contemporary Crafts are taking part in the group's biennial exhibition of work, showcasing over 17 designers and makers under one roof.

The exhibition, which opened this week at the Willow Gallery in Willow Street, will run until September 8 with a meet the makers day on Saturday.

Shropshire Guild of Contemporary Crafts was formed in 2001 to promote, display and sell work produced by designer makers in Shropshire. Members use traditional skills and techniques alongside innovative modern methods to create beautiful contemporary work of the highest calibre. The gallery is open 9.30am to 5pm daily, and admission is free.

First Minister spells out challenges of Brexit to farming

FIRST Minister for Wales Carwyn Jones stressed the importance of UK Brexit negotiations maintaining full market access to the EU during his speech at a packed NFU Cymru Brexit seminar at the Royal Welsh Show this week.

Farmers from the Oswestry and Welshpool areas were among the thousands of people who attended the four-day show, held at Llanellwedd near BuilthWells.

Speaking at his final Royal Welsh Show as a government minister, Mr Jones told the

packed audience in the NFU Cymru/NFU Mutual marquee that Brexit presented the biggest challenge farming had faced since the end of the war.

Mr Jones used his address to underline his firm belief that full unfettered access to EU markets and the Customs Union were of paramount if the Welsh agricultural industry is to prosper after March 2019.

He also reaffirmed that Welsh Government would continue to honour its agreement to ring-fence funding for agriculture and that

future funding arrangements with UK Government should not be subject to the Barnett Formula.

Speaking after the 'Brexit – Where are we now and where are we heading?' seminar, NFU Cymru President John Davies said: "We are extremely grateful to the First Minister for participating in the Brexit seminar. It was an excellent opportunity for NFU Cymru members, the media and the wider public with a forum to discuss how Brexit could impact Wales.

"The key points to come out of today's Brexit seminar are that access to key markets remains a huge concern for Welsh farmers, not least those in the sheep industry who currently see a third of the Welsh lamb crop go to the EU. I cannot stress strongly enough the importance of negotiators securing a deal that allows the industry to prosper post-Brexit.

"It was also pleasing to hear that there is alignment between Welsh Government and NFU Cymru around funding for the industry going forward."



Between a third and a quarter of the population are classed as inactive

Time to take on the county's hidden killer

With 750 deaths from lack of exercise reported each year in the region alone, a new strategy is being launched. MARK ANDREWS reports.

John Buckley paints a pretty grim picture about the county's health.

"Seven-hundred-and-fifty deaths per year in Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin, are due to inactivity," says the professor of exercise science at Shrewsbury University Centre.

"That's equivalent to two jumbo jets crashing every year in Shropshire."

Does that mean we are a county of couch potatoes? While this is a problem by no means unique to Shropshire, it is fair to say that the county has its work cut out getting people to lead more active lifestyles.

Prof Buckley is at the Enginuity museum in Coalbrookdale, for the launch of a new campaign by the Energize keep-fit charity to make people in the county more active.

He says 143,000 people across the whole of Shropshire, including Telford & Wrekin, are classed as 'inactive', accounting for 29 per cent of the population. But for those aged 55 and over, the figure rises to 42 per cent. And it's not

just the older generation either. Eighty per cent of children aged five to 15 are classed as not active enough to maintain good health.

The figures have led Energize to rethink its strategy. Since it was formed in 2012, the charity's focus has been promoting grass-roots sport by providing support with administration and marketing, and helping sporting organisations to access public funds.

But chief executive Chris Child says the statistics show there is a clear need to target specific groups, and focus on those who are more likely to spend their spare time on the sofa than in the gym.

"Our new strategy puts more emphasis on those who are classed as 'inactive', which is between a third and a quarter of the adult population.

"Although more people are taking part in sport since the 2012 Olympics, and some sports and activities are showing growth in participation, it's largely thought that a different approach is needed."

The organisation has identified four different target groups – families with lifestyles that might mean youngsters are less likely to lead active lifestyles, the 13-25 age group, the 45-70 age-group where a lack of activity may store up problems for later life, and the elderly, where an active lifestyle could be crucial to them retaining their independence.

Of course, there are plenty of organisations across the county which are already doing this. For example, Sports and Arts in the Community, based at Bishop's Castle Leisure Centre, provides a comprehensive range of sporting activities aimed at youngsters during the summer holidays.

The Shifnal-based Live at Home charity is planning to launch a chair-based exercise class with a view to helping older people lead more

independent lives. Mr Child says identifying groups which are already working to deliver such objectives will be crucial to the strategy's success.

A walking netball group, which provided a new lease of life to a woman in her 80s, and the Breaking Chains cycling club, which uses the sport to help addicts overcome their dependencies, have been cited as examples of how the charity could potentially encourage hard-to-reach groups active in sport.

Another group which, perhaps unsurprisingly, suffers from high levels of inactivity, are those living with disability or long-term health problems.

Mr Child says that 43 per cent of people with long-term conditions are considered to be physically inactive, compared to 21 per cent of able-bodied people. He says for the past four years, Energize has been using lottery money to support groups which encourage physical activity among the disabled.

Children from families which suffer from deprivation have also been identified as more likely to be inactive, with 16 areas across the county – 15 in Telford & Wrekin – falling within the 10 per cent most deprived in the country.

Ben Harper, of Energize points out that one in five children in Shropshire are overweight by the time they start primary school, rising to one in three by the time they leave.

At a time when the NHS is facing ever-growing demands on its limited resources, Mr Child points out that helping people make just small changes to their lifestyle could bring huge benefits to the public purse.

"It can be a really cost effective," he says, adding that research suggests that every £1 spent on encouraging people to take up walking or cycling can save £19 in the long-term."

'Inactivity kills the equivalent of people dying in two plane crashes'

Goodbye rat race, hello to the good life



Dave and Daphne have set up a new life in Bishop's Castle

DAPHNE Du Cros steps on to a large tool known as a broadfork, using her body weight to break up the ground hardened by the baking sunshine.

"I was doing this when I was heavily pregnant," says the 32-year-old, the sweat glistening from her brow.

It has certainly been an eventful few months for Canadian-born Daphne, and her husband Dave.

A year ago they were living in a small flat in London. Then in September last year, three days after getting married, the couple quit the big city rat-race to set up a market garden in Bishop's Castle. And if that wasn't enough, Daphne gave birth to daughter Isla in March.

"It's been quite a year," says Dave, 31, who works as a software engineer during

Report by Mark Andrews

"The winter was a bit of a nightmare," says Daphne, referring the cold and frosty weather which continued right up until Easter.

"We started growing indoors, a neighbour very kindly ploughed a bit of the land for us, and we used tarpaulin to get rid of all the weeds.

"We started to feel like our time in London was winding down and that we wanted a different environment to raise a family."

Produce being grown at Little Woodbatch includes lettuce, rocket, beetroot, kale, radishes, courgettes, chilli and onions, while the polythene tunnels house the tomatoes and cucumbers.

It was a PhD course in food policy at London's City University which brought Daphne to the UK, while Dave is originally from the Wirral.

And Daphne says her studies were a major reason why the couple decided to make the move.

"In London we were aware that we were very disconnected from the process of food production, as most people are these days, and found ourselves at odds with the environmental and social impacts of industrial-scale conventional food production," she says.

"This is a big part of my PhD research. "We felt that seasonal, local veg could be grown intensively at a small scale without the heavy chemical inputs, that it could help rather than harm the environment and could play a role in the community through employment, supporting health, and where people could know their farmer and how their food has been grown."

While the couple use modern machinery where necessary, there is a touch of the wartime 'dig for victory' about the way they use traditional hand tools and methods to farm the land.

"We do have a small, walk-behind tractor, which we use when we have to, but we didn't want to become too dependent on petrol," says Dave.

"This is partly for environmental reasons, and it also keeps costs down. I would say we have spent less than £100 on petrol so far," he says.

"But also by using the hand tools it means we can farm more intensively, planting our crops closer together."

Daphne says the support of the community has been crucial to the success of their venture.

"It's a wonderful close-knit community," she says. "We never thought there would be so much support for people growing vegetables."



Richard Briers and Felicity Kendal

the day, before helping Daphne in the field at nights and weekends.

"Fortunately Isla is a very chilled-out baby."

Of course, a youngish couple quitting a run-of-the-mill existence for one of idealistic self-sufficiency is bound to draw comparisons with Tom and Barbara Good from The Good Life. But while the couple are proud that 80 per cent of the vegetables they eat are home grown, there is none of the make-do-and-mend improvisation depicted in the BBC comedy series. Having turned Little Woodbatch into a mini-farm complete with ploughed fields and polythene tunnels, they have carved out a successful niche selling their produce at local farmers' markets and to nearby restaurants.

It is a professional operation which is growing all the time. At the moment they are farming about half of their two acres of land, which was largely unused for 60 years apart from grazing livestock. One lesson they have learned is that farming in Britain makes you a hostage to the weather.



Chris Child

Big rise in employment tribunal claims

THE number of employment tribunal claims has almost doubled since tribunal fees were abolished last year.

Lawyers in Lanyon Bowdler's employment department say they have seen a big rise in businesses approaching them for advice – not only in relation to tribunal proceedings, but also with a view to ensuring appropriate procedures are followed in order to protect them from potential claims.

John Merry, head of the employment team, said the scrapping of tribunal fees in July 2017 had made a big impact on many businesses. He said: "It is necessary for employees to contact ACAS before bringing most types of employment tribunal claim – the idea being to improve the prospects of the parties agreeing a settlement without proceedings being commenced."

"Before tribunal fees were abolished in July 2017, ACAS was receiving around 1,700 referrals a week for Early Conciliation, and that jumped to about 2,200 a week after fees were abolished."

"As for the number of actual tribunal claims, compared with the same period in 2016, there were almost double the number of single tribunal claims during the period August to December."

"Consistent with this, we have seen a marked increase in employment work, not only in connection with threatened and actual tribunal proceedings, but as a result of more employers exercising greater caution due to the increased threat of claims and obtaining advice before implementing dismissals."

Lanyon Bowdler has recently launched a new service, called LBPProtect, which insures businesses against legal fees, awards and settlements relating to employment tribunal claims, as well as a variety of other risks, including in relation to data protection, contract disputes, debt claims, and claims against directors and trustees.

Branches of Waitrose are spared the axe

SHROPSHIRE'S Waitrose stores have avoided the axe after the John Lewis Partnership warned over profits and said that it will close some branches.

The group, which has seen tough trading on the high street takes its toll, is to close four Waitrose convenience shops and one small supermarket.

But the stores in Pride Hill in Shrewsbury, Newport, the Welcome Break service station at junction four of the M54 near Telford, and Wolverhampton are not on the list of closures.

The Little Waitrose store in Colmore Row, in the heart of Birmingham's business district, is to close.

The John Lewis Partnership said it does not expect to make a half year profit, while profits for the full year will come in "substantially" lower than last year.

It bemoaned "market uncertainty" and cited significant extra costs at the partnership as a result of "greater IT investment", which will be a driver of the profit decline.

Sir Charlie Mayfield, chairman of the John Lewis Partnership, said: "It is very important that we feel the jeopardy of what is happening right now."

"This isn't a blip, it is a major shift and it has a while to run."

Waitrose is expected to see profit growth and John Lewis a decline. The firm added: "It is widely acknowledged that the retail sector is going through a period of generational change and every retailer's response will be different. For the partnership, the focus is on greater differentiation – not scale."

"We have clear plans to build on our strengths and to sharpen our points of difference in both Waitrose and John Lewis."

Retailers have been hammered by rising costs and falling consumer confidence.



John Merry of Lanyon Bowdler

Warehouse for sale as firm moves



Fruit of the Loom's Halesfield base

THE Midlands base of the American clothing manufacturer Fruit of the Loom is up for sale at £4.95 million.

The huge warehouse with offices on the Halesfield Industrial Estate in Telford has gone on the market after the American firm revealed it was relocating its operations abroad, resulting in the loss of about 70 jobs.

Fruit of the Loom is closing its UK office and distribution centre in Halesfield, with bosses saying they were planning to move facilities to Europe and Africa.

The company said the decision to shut in no way reflected the "dedication and hard work" of its employees, who will be supported with outplacement services.

Jon Griffiths, chief financial officer for

Fruit of the Loom Europe, said he was expecting the site to be a popular acquisition.

"Halesfield 10G has served our company very well for our warehousing and administration needs for nearly 30 years."

He said: "We expect the building to be a very popular acquisition for a company needing much-sought after space in this area."

Scarcity

Commercial property consultants Bulleys Bradbury is marketing the 94,000 sq ft property in Telford.

Richard Bradbury, director of Telford-based Bulleys Bradbury, said: "This property was only built in around 1990

and is in a superb location that will provide much-needed warehouse space in the Midlands."

"It's going to be of interest to owner occupiers and investors alike due to the current lack of buildings available, both freehold and leasehold."

"This scarcity factor, plus the fact that the building is in excellent condition and comes with well-fitted offices, means we are already receiving approaches from potential buyers."

The property comes with a large parking area and separate delivery yard on a 3.85-acre site.

The warehouse bays are accessed from the enclosed yard by roller shutter doors.

Brexit risks weighed up at plastics conference

LOCAL manufacturing experts and international machinery giants converged for the annual plastics, design and mouldings event in Shropshire.

A true showcase of the UK's dynamic plastics sector, the free-to-attend event offered an all-encompassing exhibition and conference for plastics design, moulding, packaging and recycling.

Held at the Telford International Centre, the event featured talks on current issues facing the plastic industry, including waste management and Brexit.

One of the exhibitors was Telford-based Air Systems Controls, a leading distributor of pneumatic and hydraulic equipment for over 25 years.

Speaking at the event, managing director Bill Cooper said: "We decided to exhibit here because we do a lot of work with the plastic injection moulding business. We thought we would see if we can get any potential new customers."

"Predominantly in Telford, we would like to expand out into different areas. We export pneumatics which is the other side of our business. We do some exporting all around the world."

Disastrous

"Brexit has gone disastrous. It has gone away from getting us a good deal and actually leaving Europe. I wish they would get on with the job in hand."

"I always thought getting out of Europe would actually be good for my business. Straight away we had a dramatic change in the exchange rate, which meant the UK was actually favourably to do business."

"Everybody I know is busy at this moment in time. Whether or not there will be embargoes and they will put charges on imports into Europe we will have to find out."

"Personally I don't think much will change because I don't think either side can afford to take the risks involved. I think it will be different paperwork but expect it to

BUSINESS LATEST

By James Pugh

pretty much stay the same.

"The plastics industry seems to be pretty busy still. Plastics are everywhere now. Unfortunately, you see turtles with straws up their nose and that is obviously not very nice. I think we need to be a bit more sensible about what type of plastic we use."

Another exhibitor was Telford-based prototyping specialist Proto Labs.

Account manager Alessandro Gottardi said: "The company is doing great. We have expanded considerably and introduced new capabilities and services. These included a new 3D printing technique."

"We are always expanding, growing and hiring new people as well."

"We want get to know more about our neighbourhood and meet other business people."

Home to over 100 polymer-related companies, Telford has a world-class reputation as the centre of the polymer industry and was the venue for PDM's debut show in 2005.

Design

Sustainable and reliable product design that is resource-efficient and prevents plastics pollution was a strong theme throughout this year's event.

The British Plastics Federation (BPF) Recycling Group explained how to design a product to maximise resource efficiency and Logoplaste will look at the future of recycled materials.

There was also an update on world bioplastics technology and solutions for sorting non-clear packaging waste.

Visitors had the opportunity to discuss projects with product design companies, rotational and blow moulding machinery suppliers, toolmakers, rapid prototyping specialists, moulders and mouldmakers, masterbatch specialists, software suppliers and materials testing specialists.



Pneumatic and hydraulic equipment distributor Air Systems Controls exhibited at the event

Link-up with Barclays set to strengthen credit union



From left: Karen Farrow, Steve Barras, Amy Jones, Adrian Ault, all from Just Credit Union, with Barclays' Susan McLaren, Just Credit Union chair Pat Buchanan, board members Mark Perez and Mark Thompson and supervisor Bob White

SHROPSHIRE'S not-for-profit community bank Just Credit Union has successfully applied to take part in Barclays Credit Union Development Programme for the next 12 months.

The Barclays initiative is delivered in partnership with anti-poverty charity Toynbee Hall and other organisations. They will be working with Just Credit Union which has demonstrated to Barclays that they have the potential and capacity to innovate and grow.

The scheme offers 12 months of tailored support and training to 10 credit unions, of which Shropshire's Just Credit Union is one for 2018/19.

Karen Farrow, Just Credit Union chief officer, said: "Barclays is keen to work with growing credit unions to help them strengthen their governance and financial resilience."

"Just Credit Union's successful application recognises our continuing growth and the excellent service we provide to our communities and members in Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin."

"The positive impact we have on financial welfare is clearly demon-

strated by our highest possible five star rating which we were recently awarded under the Fairbanking Scheme."

Just Credit Union board chair Pat Buchanan added: "We are delighted to have been selected through a competitive process to be part of this highly rated development programme."

"At the same time, the experience will help us to further grow and become more effective in benefiting an even greater number of households across Shropshire."

She said the board and management team were looking forward to sharing best practice.



Lovely bubbly – a roll-top bath is a lovely place to unwind



Eat up – the very-well equipped kitchen/dining area



A double bedroom with period furniture

Calm and comfort at retreat in Normandy

ON HOLIDAY

Review by Sharon Walters

SPACIOUS, calm, comforting, a real home-from-home – what more could you ask for in a holiday rental? That's exactly what I discovered at a recently restored farmhouse in the tiny village of Glatigny in Normandy.

Owners Sam and Francesca Axford have created the perfect escape from our usually frantic lives in a quiet spot close to the most fantastic expanses of beach (often deserted) and minutes away from two charming towns offering a range of bars and restaurants and a wealth of other attractions a little further afield.

They have created a wonderful space from what was basically a shell.

There's a large open-plan kitchen, dining room and lounge complete with a huge ornate wood burner (actually made in Ironbridge in Shropshire!), full of the house's original character.

Going through this area is a utility room/cloakroom with a washing machine and off this is an exceptionally well-proportioned and stunning bathroom. It is huge with a large shower and, like the main living area, is beautifully tiled with underfloor heating.

Up on the first floor from the landing there is a breathtaking view straight up to the roof timbers neatly framing a traditional French chandelier. This oversized landing has another lounge area, a desk for working on if you really can't leave the office behind, and an extensive library.

Off a corridor there are two beautiful bedrooms with original antique furnishings and an imposing but gorgeous bathroom with a roll-top bath. This bathroom is also beautifully tiled with feature beams and stone walls.



Oh Sandy! The stunning beach just a short distance from the farmhouse

Up a pullout set of stairs and onto the top floor, a mezzanine level which provides another lounge including a third bedroom. It's a perfect hideaway spot and ideal for children.

If you need more beds the red Chesterfield sofa and the sofa on the landing are both purpose built "sofa-beds".

Innovative

There are also spare mattresses available. But for me, it's perfect for one or two families with a couple of children each.

I love the fittings and furnishings throughout and particularly the innovative way the pipes and electrical wires have been hidden away – quite retro in some places but fitting in perfectly.

The kitchen has just about everything you could want and if you want to create a sumptuous dinner including a mahogany dining table and chairs.

There are two outside courtyards – the front south facing courtyard is a delight with seating and a large pizza oven/barbecue and a smaller rear courtyard which catches the morning sun.

There are also extensive gardens just across the road complete with a mixed fruit orchard, "exotic glade", fruit and vegetable garden and a wild flower meadow. Sitting within these gardens is a large traditional barn which houses extras, like bikes and garden furniture.

Glatigny is on the western side of the Cotentin peninsula, an area much favoured

for summer holidays by Parisians, especially Barnville-Carteret.

It is set between the two small towns of La Haye du Puit and Portbail. Both offer a wide range of shops as well as eateries and cafés along with very good weekly markets.

We ate very well in both towns and especially well in Le Hetier. Their menu du jour at lunchtime is great value for money (three courses for around £10) and so tasty. It's where locals eat, and that says a lot.

Both Portbail and Barnville/Carteret offer great equestrian stables for horse riding and the rides along the beach aren't to be missed. Club Hippique "A Cheval", has a great range of horses and ponies for all sizes and abilities but they also do rides along the beach.

That was one experience ticked off my bucket list – a ride along a beach. It was windy but so exhilarating.

Breathtaking

From around June to early September, on most weekends, many towns and villages nearby hold festivals and fêtes with great outdoor music and food.

Most towns also have what is called a Brocante, which essentially is a furniture market, but these really are worth a visit as it is very rare such quantities of antiques are under a single roof for such low prices. By far the best is "La Clé Des Temps" in Coutances.

There are many World War II sites of interest, one of the biggest being near Caen and there is a book in the house showing damage to the nearby town of La Haye Du Puit.

Mont St Michel is not too far away, it is a breathtaking place and worth a visit. The Bayeux Tapestry is also close by and is an interesting day out.

If you are in the area for any length of time there are also regular boat rides over to the Channel Islands of Jersey, (which you can see from Glatigny beach) Guernsey, Sark and Alderney and I would recommend a day trip over.

Time to chill out and relax on child-free spa day treat



Review by James Driver-Fisher

TRANQUILLITY and relaxation, a workout and three-course lunch, or a pamper session followed by a long nap.

Whatever the reason for going to a day spa, it will be catered for at Eden Hall.

From the moment you walk in, the plush surroundings, friendly reception staff and waterfall features make you take a deep breath before thinking "and relax".

We stopped by one Saturday to sample its delights having left our three-year-old daughter with my mother.

So it was just the two of us, ready to embark on a few hours of food, rest and some adult conversation.

After being given a tour of the facilities we were left to our own devices but it was eye-opening to see exactly how much was on offer.

Activities and exercise classes are laid on all day, and visitors just book on to one of the slots when they arrive.

My wife Kelly had just missed the class she fancied but we both decided to give the gym a whirl because although it was time to relax, we also wanted to build an appetite for the three-course lunch that awaited us.

The gymnasium and exercise studio included state-of-the-art cardiovascular and resistance equipment, with fitness experts on hand to answer questions and offer guidance.

We did not go to crazy but after a shower and change of clothes – we left the obligatory robes until later – it was time to make our way up to the top floor for our 12.30pm lunch.

When faced with three courses as early as 12.30pm, it was nice to know the portion sizes were not too big, and most importantly the food was light and delicious.

After allowing the meals to go down, it was time to venture to the pool area.

That included the thermal spa suite, which complimented the heated rooms and massage jets.

The centrepiece was a glass-fronted, walk-through shower – one tropical, one heat and one cool mist. They all aim to capture the principle of water therapy. A bit over my head but Kelly seemed to know what she was doing.

There was also a salt water vitality pool and some very inviting outdoor hot tubs, particularly as it was a very hot, spring day, while the sauna and rose-infused steam room aimed to "gently uplift the soul" and "create emotional calm through aromatherapy".

The pool itself contained a jacuzzi, waterfall features and plenty of sunloungers, both inside and out, for those who wanted to sunbathe or simply relax by the water.

The gardens are also free to explore for a walk, and one of the quirkier features is the slumber lounge, where comfortable day beds, hanging dome chairs, soft lighting and a warm fire have been installed to, essentially, give grown-ups the chance for a midday nap – very tempting but we were a little pushed for time having dropped our daughter off.

It meant there was plenty for me to do while Kelly went off to get a massage and facial. There is a wide range of treatments to choose from too, which can all be booked on the day.

Again, simply put, Kelly said the British back massage and facial was the best she had ever had.

What impressed Kelly most was the fact her therapist Lisa travelled an hour to work each way because she loved working at the spa and how they looked after her.

Lisa recommended some facial skin products to help problem areas and Kelly said her skin felt lovely.

After another swim, we enjoyed one last drink in the roof-top conservatory before heading home. A truly relaxing experience and one we would thoroughly recommend.

Best of British theme for park's fireworks finale



The fireworks draw in crowds at Drayton Manor

DRAYTON Manor Park will turn the sky red, white and blue during its fireworks spectacular later this year with a "Best of British" theme.

The theme park, located near Tamworth in Staffordshire, will end its main season with the annual fireworks event on November 2, 3 and 4.

The display, which will last for 20 minutes, will be a toe-tapping, patriotic soundtrack including The Beatles, Oasis, Take That, Spice Girls and more.

It will be a celebration of everything British, marking an iconic year where we

have welcomed a new prince, witnessed a royal wedding and celebrated the 65th anniversary of the Queen's coronation.

Many rides will remain open until 9pm so guests can continue to experience adrenaline-pumping thrill rides into the night including Accelerator, the action-packed rollercoaster adventure, and 54 metre drop tower ride Apocalypse.

Memorable

There's also Europe's only Thomas Land, which marks its 10th anniversary this year, where there are more than 25 rides and attractions to discover before heading to the main fireworks spectacular event.

George Bryan, company director at

Drayton Manor Park, said: "We look forward to working with the award-winning Fantastic Fireworks each year to create a truly memorable fireworks spectacular for our visitors."

"Our fireworks event is one of the biggest displays in the Midlands and we can't wait for families to experience our 'Best of British' theme, which will be visually stunning and accompanied by some instantly recognisable music."

There's a 4 for £85 offer available for the fireworks spectacular, meaning it's just an extra £5 to experience the Best of British celebration this year.

For further information and to book tickets visit www.draytonmanor.co.uk/fireworks

July 28



Who Dares Wins

8pm

Nick Knowles presents the game show in which complete strangers team up, each battling to outdo the other by listing as much as they know about a given subject. Last in the series.



Reginald D Hunter's Songs of the Border

9pm

The comedian takes a 2,000-mile musical road trip along the US-Mexico border. Postponed from Saturday 14th July.



ITV Racing: Live from Ascot

1.30pm

Ed Chamberlin and Francesca Cumani present coverage of today's meeting from Ascot, where the 3.40 King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes is feature race of the day.



Riddick

10.50pm

A fugitive left for dead on a dangerous alien world lures bounty hunters to the planet in a plot to escape. Sci-fi thriller sequel, starring Vin Diesel and Katee Sackhoff.



Gino's Win Your Wish List

9pm

New series. Gino D'Acampo hosts this game show in which a family of five contestants choose their dream prizes, then answer questions to try to win the items on their wish list.

BBC1

- 6.00 Breakfast.**
10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. Matt Tebbutt hosts the cookery programme, joined by chefs Hus Vedat and Elizabeth Haigh. EastEnders star Nitin Ganatra faces his food heaven or hell, and there are archive clips.
11.30 Nadiya's Family Favourites. Nadiya Hussain makes dishes for family get-togethers. (R)
12.00 Bargain Hunt. The competition heads to the Quay Antiques Centre in Topsham, Devon, where Philip Serrell and Charles Hanson offer advice. Plus, Tim Wonnacott visits Antony House in Cornwall. (R)
1.00 BBC News; Weather.
1.15 Wanted Down Under. Nicki Chapman comes to the aid of an Australian woman living in the UK who wants to return home and her British husband, who would rather stay in Britain. (R)
2.00 Money for Nothing. Sarah Moore seeks more buried treasures at Earlswood Recycling Centre in Surrey. (R)
2.45 Garden Rescue. Transforming a Nottingham garden that has not been touched in 18 years. (R)
3.30 Escape to the Country. Highlights of the series from house-hunts in Somerset. Johnnie Irwin learns how to make Cheddar cheese and Jules Hudson checks out sand sculptures in Weston-Super-Mare. (R)
4.30 Wedding Day Winners. Couples from Littlehampton and Leicester compete in the wedding-themed game show, with challenges including a sky-dive on the Portuguese coast.
5.25 FILM: Monsters vs Aliens (2009). A giant woman joins a team of strange creatures fighting to save the world from an alien invasion. Animated sci-fi comedy, featuring the voices of Reese Witherspoon and Hugh Laurie.
6.50 BBC News.
7.00 Midlands Today: Weather.
7.10 Pointless Celebrities. With voice artists, narrators and announcers Brenda Longman, John Leeson, Peter Dickson, Jon Briggs, Redd Pepper, Marcus Bentley, Felicity Finch and Emerald O'Hanrahan. (R)
8.00 Who Dares Wins. Nick Knowles presents the game show in which complete strangers team up, each battling to outdo the other by listing as much as they know about a given subject. Last in the series.
8.40 Casualty. Alicia decides she wants to put her night with Eddie behind her. Bea offers support, but cannot hide her disappointment when she realises Alicia has not reported it to the police.
9.30 Mrs Brown's Boys. Agnes fears her family is planning to send her to a nursing home, when in fact it is Spartacus the dog who is set to be sent away. Comedy, starring Brendan O'Carroll. (R)
10.00 BBC News; Weather; National Lottery Update.
10.20 FILM: Avengers: Age of Ultron (2015). The superheroes battle a robot created to protect the world, who intends to wipe out the human race. Sci-fi adventure sequel, with Robert Downey Jr.
12.30 Weather for the Week Ahead.
12.35 BBC News.

BBC2

- 6.35 Marrying Mum and Dad.**
7.05 Officially Amazing: Best of the Bunker.
7.35 The Designers. (R)
8.05 Naomi's Nightmares of Nature. (R)
8.35 Deadly Dinosaurs with Steve Backshall. (R)
9.05 David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities. (R)
9.30 Animal Odd Couples. (R)
10.30 Natural World. (R)
11.15 Homes Under the Hammer. (R)
12.00 Food & Drink. Culinary advice and discussion, hosted by Michel Roux Jr. (R)
12.30 Kew on a Plate. The vegetable garden is set to produce a bumper harvest. (R)
1.30 FILM: The Man Who Never Was (1956). Fact-based Second World War drama, starring Clifton Webb.
3.10 Ben & James Versus the Arabian Desert. Part two of two. Disaster strikes when one of the duo suffers a serious injury. (R)
4.10 Flog It! Philip Serrell and Charles Hanson visit National Maritime Museum in Cornwall. (R)
4.35 Don't Panic! The Dad's Army Story. Victoria Wood celebrates the comedy. (R)
5.25 Dad's Army. Godfrey is accused of cowardice. (R)
6.00 Cycling: Ride London Women's Classic. Jill Douglas introduces coverage of the conclusion to the most lucrative one-day race in women's cycling, with a prize pool of £100,000. Coverage begins on the interactive service at 4.50pm.
6.50 Proms Extra. Katie Derham is joined by violinist Tai Murray and Gillian Moore, the Director of Music at the Southbank Centre. Plus, the Chord of the Week focuses on Parry's 5th Symphony.
7.30 We're Doomed! The Dad's Army Story. Comedy drama about how Jimmy Perry and David Croft overcame BBC management scepticism and focus groups to get the sitcom Dad's Army on air. Starring Paul Ritter. (R)
8.30 Dad's Army. Mainwaring and Wilson decide to recruit women into the platoon to take care of the less demanding tasks, but the captain loses his heart to an attractive widow. (R)
9.00 Reginald D Hunter's Songs of the Border. Against the backdrop of President Trump's planned construction of a wall between the two countries, the comedian takes a 2,000-mile musical road trip along the US-Mexico border. Postponed from Saturday 14th July.
10.15 QI. Part one of two. Some of the best moments from the Q series, in which host Sandi Toksvig posed regular panellist Alan Davies and guest players a range of perplexing questions. (R)
10.45 Stewart Lee - Content Provider. A performance of the comedian's stand-up show, recorded at the Palace Theatre, Southend-on-Sea in April 2018. Graphic novelist Alan Moore also features, with chat and questions.
12.45 Picnic at Hanging Rock. (R)
1.40 FILM: Age of Uprising: The Legend of Michael Kohlhaas (2013). Historical drama, starring Mads Mikkelsen.
3.35 This Is BBC2.

ITV

- 6.00 CITV: Sooty 6.10 Make It Pop 6.35 Dino Dana 6.50 Mission Employable 6.55 The Oddbods Show 7.05 NinjaGo: Possession 7.30 The Haunted Hathaways 7.55 Drop Dead Weird**
8.25 ITV News.
8.30 Zoe Ball on Saturday. With guests Joe Pasquale and Ben Aldridge.
9.25 James Martin's Saturday Morning. Carol Kirkwood and Nathan Outlaw join James as he prepares more mouth-watering treats, and tries to prepare a lemon meringue pie while being driven around in an off-road racing car. (R)
11.20 James Martin's American Adventure. The chef arrives in Austin as he continues his culinary journey through Texas.
11.50 Eat, Shop, Save. A County Durham family try to ditch their takeaway habit. (R)
12.20 Love Your Garden. As the makeover show returns, Alan Titchmarsh and the team heads to Fareham near Southampton to surprise Betty Richards, a 90-year-old volunteer and fundraiser. (R)
1.20 ITV News and Weather; Weather.
1.30 ITV Racing: Live from Ascot. Ed Chamberlin and Francesca Cumani present coverage of today's meeting from Ascot, where the 3.40 King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes is feature race of the day.
4.00 The Chase. Bradley Walsh presents as four contestants answer general knowledge questions and work as a team to take on ruthless quiz genius the Chaser and secure a cash prize. (R)
5.00 WOS Wrestling. New series. Spectacular wrestling action.
6.00 ITV News and Weather.
6.15 ITV News Central; Weather.
6.30 Japandemonium. Melvin Odoom narrates a review of the best Japanese TV, showcasing some of the maddest and funniest moments ever broadcast. Featuring a prank show and an ancient Japanese sport.
7.00 Big Star's Little Star. New series. Stephen Mulhern hosts the entertainment show, as children spill the beans about their famous relatives. Taking part are Stacey Solomon, John Thomson and Jenny Powell.
8.00 FILM: The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (2012). Unassuming hobbit Bilbo Baggins is recruited to join a band of dwarves on a quest to reclaim their lost homeland. Fantasy adventure, with Martin Freeman and Ian McKellen.
11.15 ITV News and Weather; Weather.
11.35 Play to the Whistle. Holly Willoughby and captains Frank Lampard and Bradley Walsh are joined by golfer Andrew Johnston, Scarlett Moffatt and comic Rob Beckett. Last in the series. (R)
12.35 Jackpot247. Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.00 Eternal Glory. Eight sporting stars, including James Cracknell, Matt Le Tissier, Fatima Whitbread and Liz McColgan, take part in a unique competition designed around sport science. (R)

Channel 4

- 6.10 The King of Queens.** Carrie wins four basketball season tickets. (R)
6.35 The King of Queens. Carrie cooks for Deacon. (R)
7.00 The King of Queens. Doug and Deacon fight over a toy. (R)
7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. Marie leaves Frank. (R)
7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. Debra's parents announce they are going to pay a visit. (R)
8.25 Frasier. The radio station's new owner visits. (R)
8.55 Frasier. Roz dates a compulsive womaniser. (R)
9.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R)
9.55 The Big Bang Theory. Penny regrets her night with Raj. (R)
10.25 The Simpsons. Marge joins the local police academy. (R)
10.55 The Simpsons. Marge contemplates an affair. (R)
11.25 Come Dine with Me. Four people host dinner parties in and around Sheffield. (R)
12.25 Four in a Bed. The competition gets under way at Acqua Beach in Weymouth. (R)
12.55 Four in a Bed. Derek and Lynne Love welcome the group to Langmead Guest House in Ramsgate. (R)
1.25 Four in a Bed. The third hosts welcome guests to The Big Green Bus in Lewes. (R)
1.55 Four in a Bed. Chef Stephen Orr opens the doors of the Pheasant hotel in Brill. (R)
2.25 Four in a Bed. Stephen from The Pheasant explains his motives for pulling the wool over the group's eyes. (R)
3.00 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. A woman who wants a holiday home on Spain's Costa Blanca. (R)
4.00 Kirstie and Phil's Love It or List It. Head-to-head property show with Kirstie Allsopp and Phil Spencer. (R)
5.00 Channel 4 News.
5.30 Formula 1 Hungarian Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights. Action from the Hungaroring in Budapest.
7.00 A Year in the New Forest. New series. A year in the life of the animals and people who call the ancient forest their home, telling the story of each season as it passes in this rich ecosystem.
8.00 My Family and the Galapagos. New series. Monty Halls returns to his "favourite place on Earth" to investigate the wonders and challenges that both define and threaten this jewel of nature.
9.00 FILM: Hitman: Agent 47 (2015). Premiere. A genetically engineered assassin fights against a corporation that plans to create an army of superhuman killers. Action thriller, starring Rupert Friend and Hannah Ware.
10.50 FILM: Riddick (2013). A fugitive left for dead on a dangerous alien world lures bounty hunters to the planet in a plot to escape. Sci-fi thriller sequel, starring Vin Diesel and Katee Sackhoff.
12.55 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. (R)
1.45 The Big Narstie Show. (R)
2.40 Hollyoaks. (R)
4.45 My Kitchen Rules. (R)
5.40 Star Boot Sale. (R)

Channel 5

- 6.00 Milkshake!: Little Princess 6.10 Wissper 6.20 Poppy Cat 6.30 Milkshake! Monkey 6.35 The Secret Life of Kittens 6.40 Seaside Antics 6.45 Olly the Little White Van 6.50 Simon 7.00 Peppa Pig 7.05 Paw Patrol 7.15 Thomas and Friends: Extraordinary Engines 7.30 Fireman Sam 7.45 Rusty Rivets 8.00 Paw Patrol 8.15 Pirata & Capitano 8.30 Noddy: Toyland Detective 8.50 Floogals 9.00 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom 9.10 Shimmer and Shine 9.30 Digby Dragon 9.45 Peppa Pig 9.55 Peppa Pig**
- 10.00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.** (R)
10.35 Access.
10.40 Animals Make You Laugh Out Loud 2. (R)
11.10 Police Interceptors. A rookie police dog chases a burglar through Middlesbrough. (R)
12.05 Police Interceptors. Stu deals with a case involving an alleged assault and a missing crossbow. (R)
1.05 Police Interceptors. Dog handler Jimmy finds a dangerous weapon. (R)
2.05 Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords. Cases featured in previous episodes. (R)
3.05 Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords. A property developer's battle against squatters. (R)
4.05 Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords: Disturbing the Peace. Landlords who faced prosecution if they did not evict their violent tenants. (R)
5.05 Rich House, Poor House Changed My Life. Catching up with families featured on the programme. (R)
6.05 5 News Weekend.
6.10 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away! An episode combining new and unforgettable past cases, with the High Court Enforcement Agents tackling troublesome situations in Manchester, London and Liverpool. (R)
7.05 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away! Stewart and Vic become party to a fractured family's school fee woes in Staffordshire and Del and Dael need to reclaim £3,500 after a rental van was returned badly damaged. (R)
8.00 Blind Date. Paul O'Grady hosts the dating show, as criminologist Luke chooses between drag queens Trampagne from Portsmouth, Ireland's Shyanne O'Shea and Anna Phylactic from Manchester.
9.00 Gino's Win Your Wish List. New series. Gino D'Acampo hosts this game show in which a family of five contestants choose their dream prizes, then answer questions to try to win the items on their wish list.
10.00 When Game Shows Go Horribly Wrong. Dale Winton narrates a compilation of disastrous game show moments, featuring The Chase, The Million Pound Drop, The Krypton Factor, Catchphrase and 100%. (R)
12.55 SuperCasino.
3.10 Eamonn & Ruth: How the Other Half Lives. (R)
4.00 Celebrity 5 Go Caravanning. (R)
4.45 House Doctor. (R)
5.10 Divine Designs. (R)
5.35 Wildlife SOS. (R)

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Ellesmere 2018 Summer Festival

Friday 10th, Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th August

At The Wharf Charity Market Saturday Morning Waterway Taxi To Historic Workshops Saturday & Sunday Kiddies Fairground
 Vintage Fairground Organ Saturday Street Entertainment Saturday & Sunday Wharfside Church Service Sunday 10.15am

Visit our website ...www.ellesmeresummerfestival.weebly.com



Imagine – Tacita Dean: Looking to See
10.30pm
Profile of the visual artist, visiting her at her studios in Berlin and Los Angeles as she works on a film project inspired by her sister.

BBC1	
6.00	Breakfast.
9.00	BBC News.
10.00	Sunday Morning Live. Topical debate covering religious, moral and ethical issues, with guest panellists and contributions from viewers.
11.00	Homes Under the Hammer. The presenters visit a grand Edwardian home in Greenwich, a piece of land in Birmingham and a property in Newcastle-Under-Lyme before hearing the new owners' plans. (R)
12.00	Bargain Hunt. Thomas Plant and David Harper offer advice to two teams in Derby, and Tim Wonnacott visits the Holburne Museum in Bath, Somerset. (R)
1.00	BBC News; Weather.
1.15	Animals Behaving Badly. Liz Bonnin meets the animals doing whatever it takes to find food, including macaques using psychology to pull off a theft, and a spider using a chemical disguise. (R)
2.15	Eat Well for Less? Gregg Wallace and Chris Bavin are in Reading to help Jo MacDonald and her three sons, who rely on freezer food and snacks and needs the skills to make home-cooked meals. (R)
3.15	Songs of Praise. Aled Jones visits Haworth to explore Emily Bronte's religious upbringing, and revisits the personal stories of inspiring Christians from the past 12 months.
3.50	Cycling: RideLondon. Jill Douglas presents live coverage of the RideLondon-Surrey Classic, billed as Britain's greatest one-day bike race and featuring 150 of the world's leading male cyclists. Coverage begins on the interactive service at 1.30pm.
6.30	BBC News.
6.50	Midlands Today; Weather.
7.00	Countryfile. The team visits Exmoor, where Matt Baker attends a residential course teaching children outdoor skills and Margherita Taylor goes in search of the UK's most endangered butterfly.
8.00	Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce presents the first of two episodes from the Stormont Parliament Building in Belfast, where items brought in to be valued include diving gear from the Titanic.
9.00	Poldark. Elizabeth obtains a potion to force an early labour in the hope that George's fears that he is not the father will disappear as soon as the child is born. Last in the series.
10.00	BBC News.
10.20	Midlands Today; Weather.
10.30	Imagine – Tacita Dean: Looking to See. Profile of the visual artist, visiting her at her studios in Berlin and Los Angeles as she works on a film project inspired by her sister and the Greek myth of Antigone.
11.40	FILM: Albert Nobbs (2011). A woman living in disguise as a man in 19th-century Ireland decides to find a wife after a meeting with a fellow cross-dresser. Drama, with Glenn Close and Mia Wasikowska.
1.25	Weather for the Week Ahead.
1.30	BBC News.



Free State of Jones
10pm
Premiere. An army deserter leads escaped slaves in rebellion against the Confederacy during the American Civil War. Fact-based drama, with Matthew McConaughey and Gugu Mbatha-Raw.

BBC2	
6.20	Glorious Gardens from Above. Exploring Hampshire by hot-air balloon. (R)
7.00	Gardeners' World. Monty Don advises on plants for a late summer display. (R)
8.00	Countryfile. The show celebrates its 30th anniversary. (R)
9.00	The Beechgrove Garden. George Anderson revamps the Rhododendron border.
9.30	Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. Matt Tebbutt presents highlights of the series.
11.00	Cycling: RideLondon. Live coverage from London's annual cycling festival.
12.00	Triathlon World Series: Edmonton. Louise Minchin introduces action from the seventh round in Edmonton, Canada.
1.30	Hairy Bikers' Best of British. Si King and Dave Myers examine the food that was popular in the 1970s. (R)
2.30	Escape to the Country. Campervan enthusiasts seek a home near the Peak District. (R)
3.30	Natural World. The wildlife of The Republic of Congo. (R)
4.30	Inventing the Impossible: The Big Life Fix. (R)
5.30	Secrets of Silicon Valley. Part two of two. The influence of technology on democracy. (R)
6.30	Mortimer & Whitehouse: Gone Fishing. In the final episode, Paul and Bob fish for Pike on the River Test in Hampshire, which may not be the best idea for two men of a certain age with heart problems. Last in the series. (R)
7.00	Inside the Factory. Gregg Wallace explores a Manchester factory that produces 700,000 toilet rolls a day, and Cherry Healey is at Britain's oldest toilet factory, where they turn out 1,000 loos daily. (R)
8.00	Searching for Shergar. Alison Millar looks back at the 1983 abduction of the champion racehorse, never to be seen again, and sets out to see if she can unearth the mystery once and for all.
9.00	Travels in Trumpland with Ed Balls. New series. The former MP explores America's Deep South to meet the people who voted Donald Trump into power, beginning with a visit to a Texas festival and a trip to the border.
10.00	FILM: Free State of Jones (2016). Premiere. An army deserter leads escaped slaves in rebellion against the Confederacy during the American Civil War. Fact-based drama, with Matthew McConaughey and Gugu Mbatha-Raw.
12.15	Idris Elba – King of Speed. Part two of two. The Luther star examines the importance of precision driving skills in motorsports, learning the art of rallying from former world champion Ari Vatanen. (R)
1.15	Sign Zone: Countryfile. The show celebrates its 30th anniversary in Cumbria, and John Craven introduces a countdown of the 30 most memorable moments from the past three decades of Countryfile. (R)
2.10	Sign Zone: Holby City. Jac is determined to prove she is a doctor and not a patient, while Dom and Loftly find themselves at cross purposes, which puts their future in the balance. (R)
3.10	This Is BBC2.



Carry On Forever
10.20pm
Martin Clunes narrates the story of the comedy franchise, beginning with a look at its Pinewood Studios origins. With contributions by Bernard Cribbins and Juliet Mills.

ITV	
6.00	CITV: Sooty 6.10 Make It Pop 6.35 Dino Dana 6.50 Mission Employable 6.55 The Oddbods Show 7.05 NinjaGo: Possession 7.30 The Haunted Hathaways 7.55 Drop Dead Weird
8.25	ITV News.
8.30	Zoe Ball on Sunday. With guests Ben Miller and Jason Manford.
9.25	Japandemonium. A review of the best Japanese TV. (R)
9.50	Ninja Warrior UK. Obstacle-course challenge, with Ben Shephard, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara. (R)
10.50	WOS Wrestling. Spectacular wrestling action. (R)
11.50	Big Star's Little Star. Children spill the beans about their famous relatives. (R)
12.50	ITV News and Weather; Weather.
12.55	Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. With Alan Johnson, Katherine Ryan and Jimmy Bullard. (R)
2.00	The Chase. Quiz show, hosted by Bradley Walsh. (R)
3.00	Tour de France Live. Coverage of the 21st and final stage of the prestigious race.
6.30	Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs. Paul meets an unusual looking Staffie cross that cannot find an owner, an English bulldog needing surgery to help it breathe and a German shepherd struggling to keep its food down. (R)
7.00	ITV News and Weather.
7.10	ITV News Central; Weather.
7.15	Catchphrase. Stephen Mulhern hosts the game show in which three contestants guess the familiar phrases hidden in animated clues, before one of them plays to win £50,000. (R)
8.00	The Chase: Celebrity Special. Sarah Willingham, Shaun Ryder, Michelle Dewberry and Eddie Edwards work as a team to take on quiz genius the Chaser and secure a cash prize for charity. Presented by Bradley Walsh. (R)
9.00	Unforgotten. Pete, Chris, James and Tim are interviewed about the time they spent renting a holiday cottage near where Hayley disappeared, and Jamila needs to know more about Chris's past.
10.00	ITV News and Weather; Weather.
10.20	Carry On Forever. Martin Clunes narrates the story of the comedy franchise, beginning with a look at its Pinewood Studios origins. With contributions by Bernard Cribbins and Juliet Mills. (R)
11.20	Sunday Night at the Palladium. Rob Brydon introduces music by Neil Diamond, Paloma Faith and Texas, and comedy from Milton Jones and Daniel Sloss, plus the cast of Jersey Boys and more. Last in the series. (R)
12.15	Jackpot247. Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.00	Motorsport UK. Richard John Neil presents racing from Croft. (R)
3.50	British Superbike Championship Highlights. (R)
4.40	ITV Nightscreen.
5.05	The Jeremy Kyle Show. The host invites guests to air their differences over family and relationship issues, and provides them with his own brand of no-nonsense advice. (R)



The Football Club: Artist in Residence
10.05pm
Portraitist Tai Schierenberg spends a year as West Bromwich Albion FC's artist in residence, but his time with the club coincides with a dramatic turn of fortunes.

Channel 4	
6.10	Mobil 1: The Grid. Discussing teamwork with the Red Bull Formula One team.
6.35	Motor Sport: British GT. Round seven from Spa-Francorchamps.
7.30	Everybody Loves Raymond. Ray loses heavily in a card game. (R)
7.55	Everybody Loves Raymond. Debra breaks a Thanksgiving tradition. (R)
8.25	Frasier. Daphne tries to avoid returning to England. (R)
9.00	Frasier. Daphne's ex-fiance arrives in town. (R)
9.30	Sunday Brunch. With guests Craig Cash, Phil Mealey, All Saints and Adam Hills.
12.30	The Simpsons. Homer becomes a fisherman. (R)
12.55	The Simpsons. Three stories of revenge. (R)
1.25	FILM: Diary of a Wimpy Kid (2010). Family comedy, starring Zachary Gordon.
3.15	Location, Location, Location. House-hunting around Hove on the south coast of England. (R)
4.15	Bang on Budget. Lucy Alexander and Harry Hoffman redesign a house in Bristol.
5.20	Homes by the Med. Charlie Luxton explores the less well-known side of the Costa Blanca. (R)
6.20	Channel 4 News.
6.45	Formula 1 Hungarian Grand Prix Highlights. Steve Jones and David Coulthard present action from the Hungarian in Budapest, where the 12th round of the season took place.
9.00	The Handmaid's Tale. Offred faces a gruelling challenge alone as she recalls her life as a mother.
10.05	The Football Club: Artist in Residence. Portraitist Tai Schierenberg spends a year as West Bromwich Albion FC's artist in residence, but his time with the club coincides with a dramatic turn of fortunes.
11.00	FILM: Chef (2014). A man quits his job at a restaurant and teams up with his ex-wife, his friend and his son to launch a food truck in Miami. Comedy, with Jon Favreau and Robert Downey Jr.
1.10	The Last Leg. Adam Hills, Josh Widdicombe and Alex Brooker are joined by celebrity guests for a comic review of the significant moments of the past seven days. (R)
2.05	FILM: Rams (2015). Two brothers who have not spoken in years put their differences aside to protect their family's sheep herd. Drama, starring Sigurdur Sigurjonsson and Theodor Juliusson.
3.45	Mobil 1: The Grid. Discussing teamwork with the Red Bull Formula One team, and a behind-the-scenes look at the Imva WeatherTech SportsCar Championship in Canada. (R)
4.10	Selling Houses with Amanda Lamb. Three Derby homeowners, with the aid of £1,000 and the host's help, have one week to make their houses appeal to newly married buyers Lou and Steve. (R)
5.05	My Kitchen Rules. Celia and Dave, a married couple from Wolverhampton, face the Mystery Ingredient challenge from chef Theo Randall, whose culinary style celebrates the food of Italy. (R)



Chuckle Time with the Chuckle Brothers
7.05pm
The duo introduce this new clip-show, featuring the funniest fails, flops and falls uploaded to the internet, introduced from their very own living room.

Channel 5	
6.00	Milkshake!: Little Princess 6.10 Wissper 6.20 Poppy Cat 6.30 Milkshake! Monkey 6.35 The Secret Life of Kittens 6.40 Seaside Antics 6.45 Olly the Little White Van 6.50 Simon 7.00 Peppa Pig 7.05 Paw Patrol 7.15 Thomas & Friends: Extraordinary Engines 7.35 Fireman Sam 7.50 Rusty Rivets 8.05 Paw Patrol 8.20 Pirata & Capitano 8.35 Noddy: Toyland Detective 8.50 Floogals 9.05 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom 9.15 Shimmer and Shine 9.35 Digby Dragon 9.50 Peppa Pig 10.00 Peppa Pig
10.05	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R)
10.30	Chuckle Time with the Chuckle Brothers. The comedy duo introduce this new clip-show. (R)
11.20	Police Interceptors. The work of South Yorkshire's Road Crime Unit. (R)
12.10	Police Interceptors. A pursuit involving 20 cars and two helicopters. (R)
1.10	Police Interceptors. Officers track down a driver trying to outrun the law. (R)
2.05	FILM: Nanny McPhee (2005). Period fantasy, starring Emma Thompson.
3.05	Access. Showbiz news and gossip.
3.10	FILM: Nanny McPhee (2005). Concluded.
4.10	FILM: Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang (2010). Fantasy comedy, starring Emma Thompson.
5.10	Access. Showbiz news and gossip.
5.15	FILM: Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang (2010). Concluded.
6.15	The Wonderful World of Puppies: Homeward Bound. Rocky the golden retriever moves in with a young family in the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire, and has to learn to curb his excitement when playing with the children.
7.05	Chuckle Time with the Chuckle Brothers. The comedy duo introduce this new clip-show, featuring the funniest fails, flops and falls uploaded to the internet.
8.00	Funniest Ever Game Show Moments. Ore Oduba presents a selection of memorable moments featuring celebrities appearing on game shows, including Bradley Walsh's struggles with the strangest questions on The Chase.
8.55	5 News Weekend.
9.00	FILM: Face/Off (1997). An FBI agent has the face of a terrorist granted onto his own to foil a bombing, only for the criminal to assume his identity. Action thriller, with Nicolas Cage and John Travolta.
10.00	5 News Update.
10.05	FILM: Face/Off (1997). Concluded.
11.45	FILM: Fight Club (1999). A disillusioned office worker and his mysterious friend start a club where frustrated men vent their anger in bare-knuckle fighting. Drama, starring Brad Pitt and Edward Norton.
12.45	Access.
12.50	FILM: Fight Club (1999). Concluded.
2.25	SuperCasino.
4.00	Get Your Tatts Out: Kavos Ink. (R)
4.45	House Doctor. (R)
5.10	Divine Designs. (R)
5.35	Wildlife SOS. (R)



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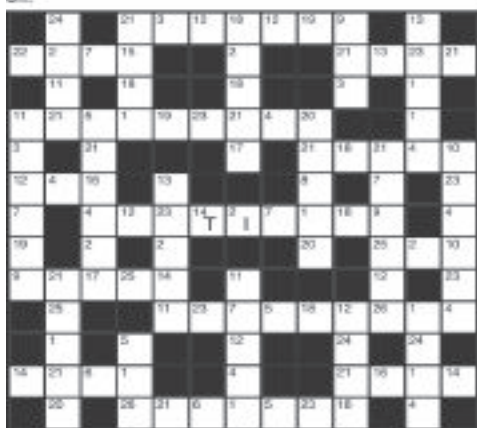
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Station SY21 0SF

THE WELSHPOOL & LLANFAIR LIGHT RAILWAY

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
D	E	M	O	A	X	F	H	R	J	T	P	V
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
I	L	Q	Z	W	S	C	B	G	U	N	K	Y

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

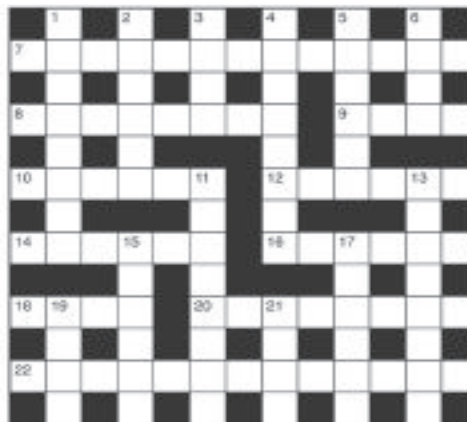
Cryptic Clues:

Across

7. Marksman who have meteoric careers? (8/5)
8. Insect with a lot to learn (5)
9. Where to put money to work (4)
10. Stays to give personal support (3)
12. Do real results come from such a testing experience? (3)
14. A wild horse on land (3)
16. Eagerly Lon rummaged about in the locker (3)
18. Yet she may be a hit with the boys (4)
20. It's a snail returning yet has some worth inside (3)
22. It offers protection to buyer and seller alike (7/5)

Down

1. Find her with
nothing on in bed,
smoking them? (8)
2. They don't like
gooseberries (5)
3. It's not evident
the plaintiff has a
quarrel (4)
4. Not a pretty sight
on the face of
things (4,4)
5. Tasted differently,
it's said (6)
6. A test for which
there is something
to be said (4)
11. What scores of
young people are
in? (8)
13. Hub-hub (4-4)
15. Love duets freshly
turned out (8)
17. Slips in proofs of
humanity? (8)
19. A club with lofty
aims (4)
21. This reminds me to
go to the doctor (8)



Quick Clues:

Across

7. Scrupulous (13)
8. Valuer (8)
9. Portent (4)
10. Acrid (8)
12. Character (8)
14. Fault (8)
16. Mystery (8)
18. Close (4)
20. Amicable (8)
22. Dull (13)

Down

1. Plot (8)
2. *Aver* (6)
3. Mental powers (4)
4. Girls (6)
5. Equip (3,3)
6. Entice (4)
11. Confirmed (8)
13. Disconnected (8)
15. Scope (6)
17. Catch fire (6)
19. Suspend (4)
21. Notion (4)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S
SOLUTIONS >

9	2	1	7	5	8	4	3
6	8	3	4	9	2	5	7
5	7	4	6	1	3	9	8
7	5	8	3	2	9	1	6
3	6	2	1	4	7	8	5
4	1	8	5	6	3	7	2
2	3	5	9	7	1	6	4
1	4	7	2	8	6	3	9
8	9	6	5	3	4	2	1

LAST WEEKS CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC: Across: 12bbo, 8 The marlines;
 9 Playmate; 10 Sock; 12 Moment; 14 Themo;
 5 Shave; 7 Cattle; 18 Eric; 19 Tent-pole;
 21 Elasticity; 22 Sash. Down: 2 Bill-poster;
 3 Hay; 4 Repeat; 5 Talent; 6 Minors; 7 Asia;
 11 Footlights; 13 Exercise; 16 Victor; 17 Gaudin;
 18 Cover; 23 Paps.
QUICK: Across: 1 Fail; 8 Answer back;
 9 Lashy; 10 East; 12 Marine; 14 Devise;
 15 Middle; 17 Sudden; 18 Snag; 19 Browbeat;
 21 Mountain; 22 Dine. Down: 2 Excavation;
 3 Lashy; 4 Repeat; 5 Headset; 6 Covered; 7 Sisk;
 8 Surplice; 9 Indigent; 10 Emblem;
 11 Slicer; 12 Serpe; 20 Raps.

1. Who became South Africa's first executive state president in 1984?
2. Which increasingly-common medical condition is treated with a bronchodilator?
3. From which flower is orrisroot obtained?
4. Of which bird is the ptarmigan a variety?
5. Who is the Greek counterpart of the Roman goddess Pax?

6. Which school featured in a series of films by Frank Launder and Sidney Gilliat?
7. Who founded the Society of Friends?
8. When was the Domesday Book completed?
9. To which church do the Moonies belong?
10. Which choirboy had a hit with *Walking in the Air*?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Santiago; 2 Greenpeace; 3 L Ron Hubbard; 4 England and Scotland; 5 John Gisham; 6 Lockjaw; 7 Ottorino Respighi; 8 Cyclades; 9 Elaine Paige; 10 Gisham Greens

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

4563123	gives a sorcerer.
956167	gives a second sorcerer.
274567823	gives a third sorcerer.

4563123
956167
274567823

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Nine: UNLATCHED

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Easy Installation

Permeable surfaces such as resin driveways do not require planning permission.

Simple Maintenance

The appearance of gravel, without the loose stones. This makes your driveway simple to maintain. The smooth and flat surface makes it easier to use wheelchairs or pushchairs for example.

Weather Resistant

The textured surface works as an effective anti-skid, whereas other driveway materials can become hazardous during wet weather. Resin driveways are also weather resistant, they won't soften during hot weather or freeze in the winter.

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Built to Last

Our resin driveways are made with high-quality materials, this durability ensures they are built to last. Resin driveways are a great way for your home to make a fantastic first impression.

Traditional driveway materials can degrade over time. Paving stones can crack, and loose gravel stones can lose their surface coverage. With our resin technology, you can rest assured that your home will have a quality driveway for years to come.

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FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deaths

LLOYD

John Desmond
Of Rhos Common.
Much loved Husband of Sue.
Loving Dad to Richard, Andy
and Mat.

Passed away peacefully at
the Welshpool Hospital,
where both John and all
the Family have received
exceptional care by all the
Staff, on Sunday, July 22,
2018, aged 77 years.

Funeral Service will
take place at Shrewsbury
Crematorium on Monday,
August 6, 2018 at 2pm.

Family flowers only
please, however all kind
donations will support the
League of Friends at the
Victoria Memorial Hospital,
Welshpool. Donations will
help fund a Patient and
Visitor Palliative Centre
including a covered outside
garden area at the Hospital.

All inquiries to

AUBREY KIRKHAM
Funeral Directors,
The Elms,
Four Crosses,
01691 839292

Acknowledgements

JONES

Frank Evan

Of Crungoed, Llanbister Road

The Family would like to
thank all the many Relatives,
Friends and Neighbours for
the kind messages of sympathy
and support received in their
sad bereavement, for the
generous donations and for
the attendance at the Funeral
Service, special thanks to
all the Staff on the Claeuwen
Ward at Llandrindod Hospital,
Shropdc, Olwyn Breeze for
playing the organ and all at
Gravel Chapel and to Sally
and Marie Hall of Geoff Hall
Funerals, Knighton.

MORRIS

Kenneth David

Carol and Family would like
to thank Family Friends and
Neighbours for their kindness,
cards, messages and flowers
following the tragic loss of
Ken.

Donations amounting to £1,186
have been divided between
MIND, Hope House and
Cancer Research UK.

Many thanks to all who
attended the Service, the
Reverend, Harvey Gibbons,
Mike and Rachel (Weston
Pools) and W E Price Funeral
Directors for helping us
through this very difficult
time.

Shipton

Near Much Wenlock

ALLSOP

John

Ansell and Margaret Allsop
and the Family of the late
Mr John Allsop wish to
express their sincere thanks
to all Relatives, Friends,
Neighbours and members of
the wider Farming Community
for the cards, letters and
other kind messages of
sympathy, love and prayers
received at this very sad time.
For your attendance at his
Funeral Service and for your
donations to Cancer Research
UK, totalling £256 to date.

Your support has been greatly
appreciated by us all.

We extend our special thanks
to John's Doctors, to the Staff
at Much Wenlock Medical
Practice and to the Community
Nurses for your care of and
kindness to him throughout
his illness and for supporting
us in nursing him at home
until the very end, which was
so very important to us all.

To the Bearers for completing
your duties with such dignity,
to everyone who shared their
memories of John with us
for inclusion in his Service,
to all at The Peacock Inn at
Shrewsbury for your warm
hospitality afterwards and
to the Reverend Matthew
Stafford for leading us in a
most comforting Service.

Thank you all.

Family ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Interviews to be held: **Wednesday 29th August 2018**



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5dr RED
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EcoBoost 182 Titanium X
5dr WHITE
WAS £10,995 NOW £9,995



16 Reg MAZDA MAZDA2
HATCHBACK 1.5 SE-L
Nav 5dr BLACK
WAS £9,695 NOW £8,695



64 Reg HYUNDAI I20 DIESEL
HATCHBACK 1.4 CRDi Premium SE
5dr BLACK
WAS £7,995 NOW £7,695



64 Reg FORD KUGA DIESEL ESTATE
2.0 TDCi 150 Zetec
5dr 2WD GREY
WAS £11,995 NOW £11,495



13 Reg FORD KUGA DIESEL ESTATE
2.0 TDCi 150 Zetec
5dr SUV SILVER
WAS £11,495 NOW £10,695



15 Reg VOLKSWAGEN TIGUAN
DIESEL ESTATE 2.0 TDI BlueMotion
Tech Match 5dr (2WD) BLUE
WAS £13,495 NOW £12,995



61 Reg NISSAN QASHQAI DIESEL
HATCHBACK 1.5 dCi Acenta
Premium 5dr BLUE
WAS £13,695 NOW £12,995



17 Reg NISSAN QASHQAI 2.0 PLUS 2 DCI
N-TEC PLUS DIESEL AUTOMATIC 5DR
HATCH WHITE
WAS £12,695 NOW £11,995



13 Reg SUZUKI SX4 S-CROSS DIESEL
HATCHBACK 1.6 DDIS S23
5dr BLACK
WAS £8,495 NOW £7,995

TELFORD CARS OF THE WEEK!



15 Reg FORD KUGA DIESEL
ESTATE 2.0 TDCi 150 Titanium
5dr 2WD
£12,995



10 Reg HYUNDAI I20
HATCHBACK 1.2 Classic
3dr
£3,995



64 Reg VAUXHALL CORSA
HATCHBACK 1.4 SE
5dr
£7,495



61 Reg HYUNDAI SANTA FE
DIESEL ESTATE 2.2 CRDi Premium
5dr Auto [5 Seats]
£8,995



14 Reg FORD FOCUS HATCHBACK
1.0 EcoBoost Zetec
5dr
£7,295



15 Reg VAUXHALL CORSA HATCHBACK
1.4 ecoFLEX SE
3dr
£8,995



16 Reg RENAULT MEGANE
DIESEL HATCHBACK 1.5 dCi GT
Line Nav 5dr
£9,995



15 Reg KIA PICANTO HATCHBACK
SPECIAL EDITION 1.0 VR7
3dr
£5,695



65 Reg KIA RIO HATCHBACK
1.4 2
5dr Auto
£9,495



66 Reg FORD FIESTA
HATCHBACK 1.0 EcoBoost Zetec
3dr
£8,995



05 Reg NISSAN ALMERA
HATCHBACK 1.5 SE
5dr
£2,395



15 Reg FORD B-MAX DIESEL
HATCHBACK 1.5 TDCi Zetec
5dr
£8,495



63 Reg VOLVO V40 DIESEL
HATCHBACK D2 SE
5dr
£9,495



63 Reg VOLKSWAGEN GOLF
DIESEL HATCHBACK 1.6 TDI
105 SE 5dr
£8,795



14 Reg NISSAN NOTE
HATCHBACK 1.2 Acenta
Premium 5dr
£7,995



58 Reg MAZDA MAZDA2
HATCHBACK 1.5 Sport
5dr
£4,295

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MOTURING



Celebrating 20 years of the iconic Audi TT with an updated third-generation model of the Coupe and Roadster

Audi TT facelifted for its 20th anniversary

Audi has chosen the 20th anniversary of its TT to reveal the model's latest evolution – a facelifted third-generation model.

The updated sports car receives a mild redesign, improved equipment levels and a new TT S Black Edition to sit at the top of the range.

To celebrate two decades of TT, there will also be a TT 20 Years model – limited to just 999 models worldwide.

It's set to feature a raft of unique styling details, but Audi isn't revealing yet how many will be available for the UK – or how much it will cost.

Elsewhere in the range, the TT now receives Audi's new naming structure. 40 TFSI and 45 TFSI models offer up 194bhp and 245bhp respectively – both from 2.0-litre turbocharged petrol engines.

Improvement

Potent TT S models sit above these, with power set at 302bhp. That's actually a slight decrease over the previous car's 306bhp, thanks to a petrol particulate filter to reduce exhaust emissions.

However, with a 20Nm improvement in torque, the new TT S will sprint from 0-60mph a tenth of a second quicker than previously. Times for the Coupe and Roadster are set at 4.3 and 4.6 seconds respectively.

Its diesel-powered TT 'Ultra' has, however, been axed.

The '40' and '45' models are available with either a six-speed manual gearbox or a seven-speed dual-clutch automatic – S models come exclusively with the latter.

In terms of drivetrain, '40' models are front-wheel drive only. S models are only available with quattro four-wheel drive, while '45' models split



There's a new grille with a 3D effect and a single-piece frame

the difference and offer a choice of either.

On the styling front, it really is a case of 'blink and you'll miss it'. There's a new grille with a 3D effect and a single-piece frame, while Audi's Matrix LED lights are now available. There are also OLED (organic LED) rear lights.

A selection of new alloy wheels completes the package, alongside three new paint colours – Turbo Blue, Pulse Orange and Cosmos Blue.

The new model is likely to carry over existing trim levels but with improvements to spec. An upgraded

version of the once-groundbreaking 'Virtual Cockpit' will now feature an optional Sport display, showing drivers their G-force, engine and torque graphs. All TTs will get automatic headlights and wipers, drive select, heated mirrors and a multifunction steering wheel, which on most models will be the sole controller for the infotainment system.

Audi has not revealed pricing for the facelifted TT, but expect a small price increase over the outgoing model's £28,855 starting price. The facelifted TT will arrive in showrooms towards the end of 2018.

One millionth Nissan Juke rolls off the production line



Milestone for compact crossover

The one millionth Nissan Juke has been produced at the company's manufacturing site in Sunderland.

The compact crossover has proved immensely popular, and demand remains strong eight years after the car's launch. On average, a new Juke rolls off the Sunderland production line every 105 seconds.

Kevin Fitzpatrick, senior vice-president of manufacturing, supply chain management and purchasing for Nissan Europe, said: "Reaching the one million milestone is a fantastic

achievement for any model. "Eight years ago, we had never seen anything like the Juke before – it created an entirely new segment and brought a distinctive never-seen-before look to the market. Fast-forward to today and we have one million customers and Juke remains the segment leader.

"It's terrific to see that the 2018 model, with all its improvements and personalisation options, is as popular as the version that rolled off the line for the first time in 2010."

The Nissan Juke was the second crossover to be built at the Sunderland plant following the Qashqai, and statistics show that during its lifetime black has been the most popular exterior colour option.

A multitude of customisation choices means more than 23,000 Juke possibilities are available for European customers.

In total, 95,000 Jukes were sold across the continent in 2017, while an update was introduced recently to help keep the crossover current.

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61 MERCEDES C200 SE CDI BLUE EFFICIENCY AUTOMATIC, SILVER, SERVICE HISTORY 2 KEEPERS 73K	£9,950	09 PEUGEOT 207 1.4 S, 5 DOOR, GREY, AIR CON. SERVICE HISTORY 71K	SOLD
13 NISSAN QASHQAI 360 5 DOOR HATCHBACK, BLACK, SERVICE HISTORY 62K	£9,500	56 FORD FOCUS STUDIO TDCI 1.6 ESTATE, GREY, SERVICE HISTORY 91K	£1,995
15 RENAULT CLIO HATCHBACK TCE 90 DYNAMIQUE GT LINE SPORT KIT NAV, 5 DOOR, BLACK, SERVICE HISTORY £20 ROAD TAX 26K	£7,995	55 CITROEN XSARA PICASSO DESIRE, GREEN, SERVICE HISTORY 68K	£1,795
COMMERCIAL INCLUDING VAT			
14 VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.2 MATCH EDITION, 3 DOOR, BRIGHT RED, AIR CON., ALLOY WHEELS, CRUISE CONTROL, ELECTRIC WINDOWS, SERVICE HISTORY 45K	SOLD	58 VAUXHALL COMBO CDTI, WHITE 105K	£2,695
COMMERCIALS PLUS VAT			
62 KIA SOUL CRDI, SILVER, AIR CONDITIONING, ALLOY WHEELS, SERVICE HISTORY 32K	£5,695	15 TOYOTA HI-LUX 2.5D-4D 4WD ACTIVE, DOUBLE CAB, WHITE, AIR CON, ONE OWNER 19K	£14,475
11 VOLKSWAGEN POLO SEL TDI 90 1.6 5 DOOR, SILVER, AIR CON., ALLOY WHEELS, SERVICE HISTORY £30 ROAD TAX 58K	£6,495	66 FORD TRANSIT 350 L3 H3, WHITE, SIDE DOOR, ONE OWNER 21K	£13,995
15 FIAT 500 LOUNGE, LIGHT GREEN, SERVICE HISTORY, ONE OWNER £30 ROAD TAX 11K	SOLD	64 FORD TRANSIT CUSTOM 290 TREND E-TEC, WHITE, FRONT AND REAR PARKING SENSORS COLOUR CODED FRONT BUMPERS CRUISE CONTROL, SERVICE HISTORY, ONE OWNER 20K	£11,495
64 VAUXHALL CORSA EXCITE 1.2, 3 DOOR, SILVER, ALLOY WHEELS, AIR CON., BLUETOOTH, SERVICE HISTORY 17K	£5,895	14 FORD TRANSIT 350 DRW CREW CAB TIPPER, WHITE, STORAGE IN REAR NO SEATS IN REAR BODY HAS BEEN SAND BLASTED AND PAINTED, SERVICE HISTORY, ONE OWNER 69K	£10,995
13 RENAULT CLIO EXPRESSION PLUS 16V 5 DOOR, BLACK, SERVICE HISTORY 42K	£5,995	65 TRANSIT CUSTOM 290, 6 SPEED, WHITE, ONE OWNER, REGISTERED 2016, SERVICE HIST, 30K	£10,695
63 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 SXI 5 DOOR, GREY, AIR CON., ALLOY WHEELS, SERVICE HISTORY 34K	£5,995	63 FORD TRANSIT 350 EF 125PS LWB RWD, 6 SPEED, LUTON/BOX VAN, WHITE, SERV. HISTORY 51K	£10,495
15 PEUGEOT 108 ACTIVE, SILVER, SERVICE HISTORY, ONE OWNER £30 ROAD TAX 27K	£5,995	13 VOLKSWAGEN TRANSPORTER T32 140 TDI SWB, 6 SPEED, ORANGE, AIR CON., SERVICE HISTORY 38K	£10,495
10 FORD FIESTA ZETEC, 5 DOOR, SILVER, AIR CON., ALLOY WHEELS, SERVICE HISTORY 46K	£5,295	13 MERCEDES VITO 113 CDI FRIDGE VAN, WHITE TWIN SIDE DOORS, SERVICE HISTORY 46K	£9,995
09 FORD FIESTA TITANIUM 1.6 5 DOOR, SILVER, SERVICE HISTORY, ONE OWNER 53K	£5,184	63 VOLKSWAGEN TRANSPORTER TDI SWB, BLUE, SERVICE HISTORY 78K	£9,695
62 FORD KA ZETEC 1.2, SILVER, ALLOY WHEELS, AIR CONDITIONING £30 ROAD TAX 10K	£4,995	15 VOLKSWAGEN CADDY MAXI LWB START LINE, TWIN SIDE DOORS, BLUE, AIR CON, ELECT. WINDOWS, SERVICE HISTORY 28K	£8,795
10 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SRI 5 DOOR, SILVER, FULL SERVICE HISTORY 58K	£4,995	14 FORD TRANSIT CONNECT 240 L2 LWB, WHITE, TWIN SIDE DOORS, DIRECT FROM NHS ONE OWNER 69K	£7,495
61 CITROEN C4 1.6 HDI VTR+, 5 DOOR, METALLIC BLUE, AIR CON, ALLOY WHEELS, SERVICE HISTORY 56K	£4,995	61 FORD TRANSIT, WHITE, SERVICE HISTORY 37K	£7,495
14 FORD KA EDGE, WHITE, AIR CON., ELECTRIC WINDOWS £30 ROAD TAX 33K	£4,895	15 CITROEN BERLINGO 625 ENTERPRISE, 3 SEATER, WHITE, AIR CONDITIONING, WINDOWS, SIDE DOOR, REAR PARKING SENSORS 19K	£6,995
13 FIAT PUNTO JET BLACK 3 DOOR, BLACK, ALLOY WHEELS, AIR CONDITIONING 34K	£4,895	64 PEUGEOT EXPERT SWB, TWIN SIDE DOORS, WHITE, SERVICE HISTORY 52K	SOLD
10 CITROEN C3 EXCLUSIVE HDI, BLACK, ALLOY WHEELS, CLIMATE CONTROL, CRUISE CONTROL, £20 ROAD TAX 52K	£4,695	15 CITROEN BERLINGO, WHITE, 3 SEATS, SIDE DOOR, AIR CON., PARKING SENSORS, SERVICE HISTORY 38K	£6,795
14 FORD KA STUDIO, BRIGHT RED, FULL SERV. HISTORY, ONE OWNER, £30 ROAD TAX 21K	£4,650	12 FORD TRANSIT 350 LWB HIGH TOP RWD, 6 SPEED, SILVER, SERVICE HISTORY 79K	£6,495
10 RENAULT CLIO 1.6 INITIALE T-TOM, AUTOMATIC MET. RED, LEATHER SEATS, AIR CONDITIONING, SERVICE HISTORY 46K	£4,495	08 VOLKSWAGEN CRAFTMAN MVB HIGH ROOF, 163 BHP, RED 80K	£5,995
11 RENAULT CLIO DYNAMIQUE TOMTOM 1.5 DCI 5 DOOR, SILVER £20 ROAD TAX 47K	SOLD	15 PEUGEOT PARTNER 850S 90 BHP, WHITE, SIDE DOOR, ONE OWNER 29K	£5,995
58 FORD FOCUS 1.6 STYLE 5 DOOR, SILVER, AIR CONDITIONING, FULL SERVICE, ONE OWNER 39K	£4,195	62 VOLKSWAGEN CADDY C20 PLUS TDI, WHITE, SIDE DOOR, SERVICE HISTORY 61K	£5,650
59 RENAULT CLIO DYNAMIQUE 1.2 TCE 3 DOOR, RED, ALLOY WHEELS, SERVICE HISTORY 46K	£3,795	65 FIAT DOBLO CARGO FACELIFT, WHITE, SIDE DOOR, ELEC. WINDOWS, ONE OWNER 49K	£5,495
11 CITROEN C1 VTR+, WHITE, ALLOY WHEELS, AIR CON., REMOTE CENTRAL LOCKING, SERVICE HISTORY £20 ROAD TAX 28K	£3,695	15 RENAULT KANGOO ML19 1.5 DCI, WHITE, SIDE DOOR ONE OWNER 56K	£4,995
10 TOYOTA AYGO PLATINUM SPECIAL EDITION, 3 DOOR, SILVER, AIR CON., ALLOY WHEELS, SERVICE HISTORY £20 ROAD TAX 60K	£3,395	MOTOR BIKES	
07 TOYOTA YARIS TR, 5 DOOR, AIR CON., GREY, FULL SERVICE HISTORY, ONE OWNER 72K	£3,250	NEW RIEJU RS3 125 LC NKO, PRE REGISTERED, INCLUDES FIRST REG. FEE PRE-REGISTERED NEW	
06 AUDI A4 1.8 TURBO TSE, AUTOMATIC, SILVER, SERVICE HISTORY 109K	£3,250	£2,495	
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JAGUAR SELECTION	
04 JAGUAR X TYPE 2.5 AUTO AWD, Blue metallic £2450	
52 JAGUAR S TYPE AUTO Leather, Low Miles £3995	
V JAGUAR XKD Low Mileage, Silver, MUST BE SEEN £20A	
07 JAGUAR S TYPE 2.7TD Auto, Blue, Leather £4495	
08 JAGUAR XF SPORT, 2.7 TD Auto, Champagne Met, leather, 50K £8975	

CONVERTIBLES	
03 FORD STREET KA Blue Convertible £1795	
04 VAUXHALL TIGRA SPORT, Silver £1295	
4X4/ COMMERCIALS	
57 SSANGYONG REXTON 2.7 TDI, Silver SOLD	
06 HONDA CRV 2.0 ES V-Tec AUTO, Red £7895	
11 PEUGEOT PARTNER, Diesel, S.D. £4475	
04 RENAULT KANGOO TREKKA 4x4 £1395	
W HONDA CRV, new MOT, drives well, just in part-ex £1295	

CAR OF THE WEEK	
63 PEUGEOT 208, DTL, Low Mileage, previously supplied by ourselves £6650	
16 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CDTI 136 Techline, Grey Met, 8k SOLD	
14 FORD FOCUS ZETEC, NAVIGATOR, Auto, Black, 26k, ... £7995	
11 NISSAN QASHQAI ASENTA, 51k, Deep Red Met £7650	
06 VW JETTA SE TDI 140, Black Service History SOLD	
61 BMW 730d, M SPORT AUTO 3.0 DIESEL, stunning looks, Auto £13875	
06 VW Polo 1.2, 5 door, Silver, low mileage £4499	
06 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA Active, low mileage, beautiful car SOLD	
09 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 3 door, Coupe, 1.6, Silver £2925	
56 TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT 1.3, Silver, Beautiful Condition, MP3 Player £2875	
04 FORD FIESTA FLAME 5-dr, Silver £2495	
06 FIAT PUNTO Sporting 7 Jet £2495	
57 FORD FUSION TDCI, low tax, nice proper car £1995	
07 RENAULT CLIO, Campus, Silver, 3 door £1685	
03 TOYOTA YARIS, colour collection, 3 door £1295	
52 VAUXHALL CORSA AUTO, Red, only 33k miles £1225	
57 KIA SEDONA Diesel, 7 seats, low miles DUE IN	

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12 (12) SEAT IBIZA 1.2 TDI SE ECOMOTIVE
Air Conditioning, ABS, Grey, Alloy Wheels, E/W
£7,250



2017 PEUGEOT 208 1.2 PURE TECH ACTIVE
Shark Grey, Air Con, Alloys, Bluetooth, £20 Road Tax, only 9,000 miles
£9,450

Diesel Selection	
16 (66) KIA SPORTAGE 3, 1.7 ISG TRDI, Red DUE IN	
15 (15) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 2.0 TDI, SRI Tourer, in red DUE IN	
15 (15) KIA VENGA 2, 1.4 CRDI, White DUE IN	
15 (15) VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.6 CDTI TECH Line White, 11,000 miles only £8,995	
14 (14) FORD MONDEO 1.6CDTI GRAPHITE Silver £9,850	
15 (15) NISSAN QASHQAI, 1.5 DCI Acenta, 18,000 miles £11,995	
13 (63) VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.7 CDTI Exclusive Grey £11,850	
13 (13) KIA CARENS 3, 1.7 CRDI, EcoDynamics DUE IN	
13 (13) NISSAN JUKEI.5DCI Acenta PREMIUM White DUE IN	
12 (62) PEUGEOT 5008 1.6 HDI ACTIVE Silver £8,950	
12 (12) SEAT IBIZA 1.2 TDI SE ECOMOTIVE Grey £7,250	
12 (12) PEUGEOT 207, 1.6 HDI SPORT, in Black £5,450	
11 (11) VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0L CDTI Exclusive, Estate, in White £4,950	
11 (11) NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI Acenta Force Red £8,950	
10 (10) BMW 118D SPORT, 5 door, white DUE IN	
10 (10) RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCI EXPRESSION Silver £6,850	
10 (10) RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCI EXPRESSION Pearl Black £6,850	
09 (09) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 1.5, Orange DUE IN	
08 (58) VOLKSWAGEN JETTA 2.0 TDI SPORT Lovely Condition, Blue £6,850	
08 (08) VW GOLF 1.9TDI S, 5 Door, in Silver DUE IN	
05 (55) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.9 CDTI DESIGN Black £3,250	
Petrol Selection	
17 (66) PEUGEOT 208 1.2 Active, 9,000 miles, Shark Grey £9,450	
14 (14) MINI ONE COUNTRYMAN (Pepper Pack) Light White £10,450	
4x4 Selection	
13 (63) VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4 SE Blue £8,950	
11 (61) CITROEN DS3 1.6 SPORT Grey £5,850	
11 (11) MINI ONE 1.6, 3 Door, Pepper White DUE IN	
10 (60) NISSAN JUKE 1.6 Acenta Sport, Blade Silver £6,950	
10 (60) KIA PICANTO 2, 1.1, Low Miles DUE IN	
10 (10) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE Tom Tom, 6,000 miles, Blue £8,450	
10 (10) VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 SRI 5dr, 13,000 miles, Black £6,850	
10 (10) VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SSRI 5dr, 9,000 miles, Grey £6,950	
09 (59) TOYOTA YARIS, 1.3 TR, VTI, 5 door, Silver £4,950	
09 (09) MINI COOPER CONVERTIBLE Chilli pack, Horizon Blue £9,650	
08 (08) MAZDA MX-5 2.0 NIKKO ROADSTER Silver £7,850	
06 (56) PEUGEOT 207 SE 16v 5-dr, Silver Grey, 9,000 miles £5,650	
04 (04) AUDI A3 2.0 FSI SPORT Red £4,850	
04 (04) MINI ONE, 1.6 3 door, Silver £2,850	
Automatics	
12 (12) FORD GALAXY 2.0 TDCI ZETEC 7 SEATER Silver £9,250	

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Terms of Loan: 60 Months Total Payable: £3900

FORD FIESTA 1.6TDI ZETEC
*** FREE TAX *** 5 DOOR,
DIESEL, ALLOYS, AIR CON,
POWER STEERING, ELECTRIC
WINDOWS, LOW INSURANCE



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VOLKSWAGEN NEW BEAT
5 DOOR, 11,000 MILES,
AIR CON, POWER STEERING,
ELECTRIC WINDOWS,
IMMACULATE CONDITION



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Call us on 0800 917 4622 quoting stock reference: S6189

VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 2.0TDI MATCH 150
ONLY £20 TAX PER YEAR, 6 SPEED
DIESEL, ALLOYS, AIR CON, POWER
STEERING, ELECTRIC WINDOWS,
IMMACULATE CONDITION



Buy this car, and drive away today from only £40 per week*.
Call us on 0800 917 4622 quoting stock reference: S6186

FORD RANGER 2.5TDCI TITANIUM
6 SPEED DIESEL, ALLOYS, 14,000
MILES, AIR CON, POWER STEERING,
ELECTRIC WINDOWS,
IPOD CONNECTION,
IMMACULATE CONDITION



Buy this car, and drive away today from only £50 per week*.
Call us on 0800 917 4622 quoting stock reference: S6187

FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC
5 DOOR, ALLOYS, 10,000 MILES,
AIR CON, POWER STEERING, ELECTRIC
WINDOWS, LOW INSURANCE,
IPOD CONNECTION,
IMMACULATE CONDITION



Buy this car, and drive away today from only £30 per week*.
Call us on 0800 917 4622 quoting stock reference: S6188

CARS OF THE WEEK

MINI 1.6TD COOPER D SPORT



*** FREE TAX ***
3 DOOR, 6 SPEED DIESEL,
ALLOYS, AIR CON,
POWER STEERING,
ELECTRIC WINDOWS,
LOW INSURANCE

Buy this car, and drive away today from only £35 per week*.
Call us on 0800 917 4622 quoting stock reference: S6145

FORD FOCUS 1.6T STYLE



ONLY £20 TAX PER YEAR,
ALLOYS, AIR CON,
POWER STEERING,
ELECTRIC WINDOWS,
STILL UNDER
FORD WARRANTY TILL 2019,
IMMACULATE CONDITION

Buy this car, and drive away today from only £55 per week*.
Call us on 0800 917 4622 quoting stock reference: S6142

FORD FOCUS 1.6TDCI
*** FREE TAX *** 6 SPEED DIESEL, ALLOYS,
AIR CON, POWER STEERING, ELECTRIC
WINDOWS, STILL UNDER FORD WARRANTY
TILL 2019, ONLY 10,000 MILES, IPOD
CONNECTION, IMMACULATE CONDITION



Buy this car, and drive away today from only £55 per week*.
Call us on 0800 917 4622 quoting stock reference: S6152

PEUGEOT 208 1.0 PURE TECH 111 ACCESS
5 DOOR, ONLY £20 TAX PER YEAR,
AIR CON, POWER STEERING,
ELECTRIC WINDOWS, 20,000 MILES,
IMMACULATE CONDITION



Buy this car, and drive away today from only £29 per week*.
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TOYOTA YARIS 1.0
*** FREE TAX *** 5 DOOR,
4,000 MILES, UPTO 60 MPG,
LOW INSURANCE, POWER STEERING,
IMMACULATE CONDITION



Buy this car, and drive away today from only £32 per week*.
Call us on 0800 917 4622 quoting stock reference: S6151

TOYOTA YARIS 1.0 VVTi XPRESSION 08
*** FREE TAX *** FULL LEATHER,
REVERSE CAMERA, ALLOYS, AIR CON,
POWER STEERING, ELECTRIC WINDOWS,
STILL UNDER TOYOTA 5 YEAR WARRANTY,
12,000 MILES, LOW INSURANCE



Buy this car, and drive away today from only £35 per week*.
Call us on 0800 917 4622 quoting stock reference: S6150

PEUGEOT 2008 CROSSOVER 1.6 HDI

*** FREE TAX *** AUTOMATIC, ALLOYS,
AIR CON, POWER STEERING, ELECTRIC
WINDOWS, ONLY 4000 MILES, LOW
INSURANCE, IMMACULATE CONDITION



Buy this car, and drive away today from only £45 per week*.
Call us on 0800 917 4622 quoting stock reference: S6149

KIA RIO 1.25 84

MANUAL, WHITE, PETROL,
ONLY £30 TAX PER YEAR, ALLOYS,
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How they stand

37

Oswestry & Border Chronicle Thursday, July 26, 2018

Birmingham Cricket League

Premier Division 1st XI						
	P	W	D	L	T	A P
Berkswell	13	7	3	2	0	1 221
WB Dartmouth	13	7	3	2	0	1 206
Knowle & D	13	8	1	3	0	1 203
Shrewsbury	13	7	2	4	0	0 190
Smethwick	13	6	3	3	0	1 165
Kenilworth W	13	4	5	3	0	1 160
Mossley	13	5	1	7	0	0 142
Ombersley	13	4	2	6	0	1 136
Dorridge	13	4	1	7	0	1 127
Walsall	13	3	4	5	0	1 120
Barnt Green	13	2	3	7	0	1 107
Wolverhampton	13	1	2	9	0	1 87

Division One 1st XI						
	P	W	D	L	T	A P
Kidderminster	13	9	1	3	0	0 215
Shifnal	13	7	2	4	0	0 185
Halesowen	13	5	3	4	0	1 179
Oswestry	13	5	2	5	0	1 166
Bridgnorth	13	6	1	6	0	0 165
Bromsgrove	13	5	1	7	0	0 165
Tamworth	13	7	1	4	0	1 165
Barnards Green	13	6	2	4	0	1 160
Himley	13	5	3	4	0	1 153
Leamington	13	3	3	6	0	1 130
Brockhampton	13	3	0	9	0	1 113
Wellington	13	2	2	9	0	0 88

Division Two 1st XI						
	P	W	D	L	T	A P
C & R Hawks	13	9	1	3	0	1 198
Walmley	13	8	1	3	0	1 197
Harborne	13	3	6	3	0	1 175
Attock	13	5	2	5	0	1 171
Sutton Coldfield	13	6	2	4	0	1 169
Coventry & N.W.	13	6	2	4	0	1 164
Wombourne	13	5	1	7	0	1 149
Penkridge	13	4	3	4	0	1 149
Pershore	13	4	4	4	0	1 148
Fordhouses	13	4	0	8	1	0 139
Streety	13	4	1	7	0	1 128
Astwood Bank	13	3	1	8	0	1 109

Division Three 1st XI						
	P	W	D	L	T	A P
Stourbridge	13	8	4	0	0	1 220
Stratford-u-Avon	13	8	2	2	0	1 201
Old Hill	13	8	1	3	0	1 198
Rugby	13	8	0	4	0	1 192
Pelsall	13	6	2	4	0	1 179
Handsworth	13	6	1	4	0	1 2172
Lichfield	13	5	0	8	0	0 151
Redditch	13	4	2	5	0	1 149
Newport	13	5	1	6	0	1 127
Old Elizabethans	13	3	0	9	0	1 93
Milford Hall	13	2	1	9	0	1 84
Whitchurch	13	1	2	9	0	1 76

Premier Division 2nd XI						
	P	W	D	L	T	A P
Leamington	13	10	1	1	0	1 231
Shifnal	13	8	1	2	0	1 201
Attock	13	8	0	3	0	1 197
Wolverhampton	13	8	0	3	0	1 197
Harborne	13	5	3	4	0	1 179
Knowle & D	13	5	3	4	0	1 168
Tamworth	13	3	3	6	0	1 150
Harborne	13	3	5	4	0	1 136
Penkridge	13	4	1	7	0	1 132
Brockhampton	13	3	1	8	0	1 109
Mossley	13	3	2	7	0	1 102
Himley	13	1	0	11	0	1 65

Division One 2nd XI						
	P	W	D	L	T	A P
Bromsgrove	13	8	2	2	0	1 206
Halesowen	13	8	0	4	0	1 187
Coventry & N.W.	13	7	2	3	0	1 186
Walsall	13	8	0	5	0	1 183
Ombersley	13	6	2	4	0	1 175
Barnt Green	13	5	3	4	0	1 164
Astwood Bank	13	6	0	6	0	1 159
WB Dartmouth	13	6	0	6	0	1 157
Penkridge	13	4	2	6	0	1 142
Shrewsbury	13	4	1	7	0	1 139
Wombourne	13	3	2	8	0	1 121
Pershore	13	1	0	11	0	1 53

Division Two 2nd XI (N)						
	P	W	D	L	T	A P
Bridgnorth	13	11	2	0	0	0 276
Fordhouses	13	11	2	0	0	0 265
Pelsall	13	8	1	4	0	0 203
Smethwick	13	5	2	3	0	1 178
Milford Hall	13	2	3	3	0	1 178
C & R Hawks	13	4	3	5	0	1 152
Welling	13	4	2	6	0	1 146
Old Hill	13	5	2	5	0	1 137
Lichfield	13	3	2	7	0	1 112
Westwist	13	3	1	3	0	1 108
Newport	13	0	11	1	0	1 44
Whitchurch	13	1	0	11	0	1 38

Division Two 2nd XI (S)						
	P	W	D	L	T	A P
Berkswell	13	10	2	0	1	1 250
Kidderminster	13	8	2	2	1	0 220
Rugby	13	6	2	4	0	1 179
Stratford-u-Avon	13	6	1	5	0	1 170
Dorridge	13	6	1	5	0	1 168
Redditch	13	3	5	5	0	1 149
Stourbridge	13	4	4	5	0	1 147
Old Elizabethans	13	5	1	6	0	1 139
Sutton Coldfield	13	4	1	7	0	1 131
Barnards Green	13	3	4	5	0	1 127
Halesworth	13	2	2	8	0	1 91
Streety	13	2	2	8	0	1 91

Henshalls Shropshire County

Cricket League

Premier						
	P	W	D	L	C/A	B P
Quatt	13	10	1	1	1	7 233
Wern	12	10	0	1	1	7 224
Sentinel	13	8	0	3	2	13 195
Madley	13	8	0	5	0	24 192
Worfield	12	6	0	6	0	27 147
Lilleshall	14	10	0	3	1	16 168
Bomere Heath	13	5	0	6	2	24 137
St Georges	12	3	1	7	1	42 123
Newtown	13	4	0	9	0	37 115
Frankton	12	2	0	8	2	46 98
Cound	13	1	1	10	1	47 78

Division 1						
	P	W	D	L	C/A	B P
Allscott	14	11	2	1	0	22 279
Shrewsbury	14	10	0	3	1	19 240
Knockin & Kinnerley	14	10	0	3	1	19 237
Shelton	14	8	1	4	1	33 227
Alberbury	14	8	0	5	1	37 218
Wroxeter & Uppington	14	6	1	7	0	42 179
Beacon	14	6	0	7	1	32 168



Division 2						
	P	W	D	L	C/A	B P
Forton	14	5	2	6	1	42 162
Albington	14	4	1	9	0	33 129
Welshpool	14	4	1	8	1	28 124
Condover	14	3	1	9	2	38 106
Madley Drayton	14	0	3	13	1	29 11

Division 3						
	P	W	D	L	C/A	B P
Ellesmere	14	10	2	2	0	24 264
Knockin & Kinnerley	14	9	1	2	2	21 224
Calverhall	14	8	1	4	1	25 215
Shifnal	14	9	1	2	2	14 209
Hodnet, Peplow & Tibberton	14	6	1	6	1	39 176
Ludlow	14	6	1	7	0	34 176
Church Aston	14	6	3	4	1	33 172
Willeay	14	5	2	6	1	45 172
Wheaton Aston	14	4	2	8	0	48 145
Bishops Castle	14	2	0	10	2	44 82
Shrewsbury	14	0	1	13	0	52 19

Division 4						
	P	W	D	L	C/A	B P
Bridgnorth	11	9	1	0	1	8 211
Trysull & Seisdon	11	9	0	2	7	195
Gulfield	11	6	3	3	1	20 161
Harcourt	12	6	0	2	2	20 154
Corvedale	12	5	2	3	2	15 144
Colum	11	4	2	5	0	36 119
Quayside	12	3	1	7	1	28 105
Llanidloes	12	4	0	7	1	21 85
Coton Hall	11	1	2	8	0	37 68
Beacon	11	1	1	8	2	33 40

Div 1 2nd XI						
	P	W	D	L	C/A	B P
Worfield	13	9	2	2	0	32 232
Sentinel	12	10	0	1	9	222
St Georges	12	9	1	2	13	209
Alberbury	13	4	1	6	2	40 148
Shelton	13	5	0	7	1	25 137
Frankton	12	5	0	7	0	32 136
Welling	13	5	0	7	1	26 134
Wern	11	4	1	6	0	44 132
Quatt	13	4	1	6	2	37 127
Knockin & Kinnerley	13	3	1	8	1	41 108
Montgomery	13	2	0	9	2	40 92

Div2 2nd XI						
	P	W	D	L	C/A	B P
Beacon	14	8	1	4	1	22 202
Newtown	14	8	1	4	1	20 197
Madley	14	6	2	4	2	41 193
Acton Reynald	14	7	0	6	1	26 177
Willeay	14	6	2	5	1	34 172
Lilleshall	14	6	1	6	1	34 170
Cound	14	6	2	5	1	27 164
Bomere Heath	14	5	2	6	1	31 149
Broseley	14	5	2	6	1	25 117
Allscott	14	2	1	10	1	57 112
Shifnal	14	3	0	9	2	28 81

Div3 2nd XI						
	P	W	D	L	C/A	B P
Pontesbury	13	10	1	1	1	12 235
Allscott	12	7	2	3	0	26 180
Shrewsbury	12	7	1	3	1	19 170
Quatt	12	6	1	4	1	31 167
Forton	12	6	2	3	1	26 166
Albington	12	5	3	4	0	37 152
Welshpool	12	5	1	5	1	26 137
St Georges	12	5	1	4	2	16 134
Lilleshall	12	4	1	6	1	20 117
Cound	12	4	1	6	1	17 133
Bomere Heath	12	3	2	8	1	38 96
Condover	12	2	1	8	1	40 93
Knockin & Kinnerley	12	1	1	10	1	40 83
Corvedale	11	1	0	7	3	8 30

Sunday1						
	P	W	D	L	C/A	B P
Knockin & Kinnerley	13	6	3	3	1	43 184
Shrewsbury	12	7	1	3	1	19 170
Worfield	13	5	1	5	2	42 169
Wellington	12	6	1	4	1	25 164
Wern	13	5	3	2	3	34 163
Pontesbury	13	6	3	3	1	31 162
Frankton	12	5	1	5	1	38 158

Chesters takes third at Midlands Senior comp

NIGEL CHESTERS' superb second-round handed him third place in the Midland Senior Amateur Championship at Henlle Park Golf Club on Wednesday.

Chesters finished on seven over par overall, six shots behind winner Charles Banks (Stanton-on-the-Wolds).

Chesters – the father of European Tour professional Ashley – was also the winner in the 55-59 age category, four shots ahead of Worfield's Simon Lewis.

■ The Shifnal team of Ben Gilg and Steve Hawke were second in the Midland Senior Team Trophy at Henlle Park on Thursday.

Gilg's 76 and Hawke's 80 added up to a total score of 156, just one shot shy of the winning team from Fulford Heath.

■ Connor Owen finished second in the Scottish Under-16s Championship, two shots behind Italian winner Matteo Cristoni.

Golf returns

Henlle Park

Seniors' Match Day Qualifier – Division One: 1 Tony Davies 38cb, 2 Andrew Patterson 37cb, 3 Alan James 37cb; Division Two: 1 Frank Thomas 41cb, 2 Roger Harris 37cb, 3 Geoff Bellis 37cb.

Hawkstone Park

Captain's Day prize: Rowly Jones 38pts, Men's Division One: 1 Mick Thorneycroft 37pts, 2 Alan Simpson 33pts, 3 Ken MacGillivray 30pts; Division Two: 1 Dave Robson 32pts, 2 Ken Benbow 31pts, 3 Dave Ralphs 29pts. Ladies: 1 Rose Welch 35pts, 2 Wendy Simpson 33pts, 3 Cheryl Greaves 31pts. Seniors: 1 David Hiles 42pts, 2 Richard Powell 40pts, 3 Dave Greaves 39pts. Juniors: 1 Ted Bache 32pts, 2 Tom Welch 31pts.

Hill Valley

Stableford (Emerald) – Division One: 1 S Bebbington 42pts (21), 2 G Thomas 36pts (20), 3 S Wynn 35pts (18); Division Two: 1 S Pidcock-Jones 40pts (32), 2 J Wruszek 38pts (30), 3 B Sierstema 38pts (30).

Shrewsbury

Lady Captain's Charity Comp – Silver Division: 1 Ann Garbett 38pts, 2 Jane Jones 37pts, 3 Margaret Dunbar 35pts; Bronze Division: 1 Elsa Gwilt 38pts, 2 Alma Barker 37pts cb, 3 Margaret Brogden 37pts cb; Upper Bronze Division: 1 Tess Hyde 40pts, 2 Gill Spicer 38pts, 3 Geraldine Edge 37pts.

Ladies Medal: 1 Pat Turner 93-23=70, 2 Marie O'Sullivan 87-17=71.

Lilleshall Hall

July Medal – Division One: 1 A Sutton 75-8=67, 2 A Clarke 76-8=68; Division Two: 1 G Pinchin 82-16=66, 2 S Faulkner 88-21=67; Division Three: 1 O Cherrington 109-31=78, 2 L Bremner 110-30=80.

The Brow

Midweek Stableford: 1 Trevor Williams 38pts, 2 Brian Stutard 37pts, 3 John Youens 31pts, 4 Barrie Thomas 31.

Captain's Day winner: Barrie Thomas 90-25=65; Best gross: Garry Gregory 86; Division One: 1 Trevor Williams 90-16=74; Division Two: David Talbot 104-26=78.

Shropshire Cricket Lge fixture list

Saturday

Premier division: Frankton v Newtown, Ludlow Quatt, Worfield v Georges, Cound v Wern, Bomere Heath v Madeley, Sentinel (no game).

Division one: Forton v Knockin and Kinnerley, Alberbury v Pontesbury, Beacon v Aliscott Heath, Welshpool v Albrighton, Market Drayton v Condevor, Wroxeter and Uppington v Shelton.

Division two: Willey v HPTCC, Ludlow 3 v Shifnal 3, Bishop's Castle v Wheaton Aston, Montgomery v Shrewsbury 3, Lilleshall v Wellington 3, Church Aston v Ellesmere.

Division three: Cae Glas v Chelmarsh, Church Stretton v St Georges 3, Hinstock v Acton Reynald, Much Wenlock v Iscoyd and Fenns Bank, Calverhall v Fries, Overton on Dee v Harpers.

Division four: Trysull and Seisdon v Quayside, Beacon 3 v Corvedale, Coton Hall v Llanidloes, Oswestry 3 v Harcourt, Column v Gulsfield, Bridgnorth 3 (no game).

Second teams

Division one: Knockin and Kinnerley 2 v Frankton 2, Quatt 2 v Alberbury 2, St Georges 2 v Worfield 2, Wern 2 v Montgomery 2, Wellington 4 v Sentinel 2, Shelton 2 v Wroxeter and Uppington 2.

Division two: Newtown 2 v Willey 2, Shifnal 4 v Ludlow 2, Aliscott Heath 2 v Beacon 2, Acton Reynald 2 v Cound 2, Broseley v Lilleshall 2, Welshpool 2 v Bomere Heath 2.

Division three: Ellesmere 2 v Lilleshall 4, Iscoyd and Fenns Bank 2 v Bishop's Castle 2, Condevor 2 v Forton 2, St Georges 4 v Quatt 3, Pontesbury 2 v Much Wenlock 2, Albrighton 2 v Market Drayton 2, Corvedale 2 v Cae Glas 2, Aliscott Heath 3 v Welshpool 2.

Sunday

Division one: Wellington 5 v Pontesbury 3, Lilleshall 3 v Wern 3, Cound 3 v Worfield 3, Frankton 3 v Knockin and Kinnerley 3, Shrewsbury 4 v Sentinel 3, Bomere Heath 2.

Division two: Madeley 3 v Bomere Heath 3, Alberbury 3 v Wellington 6, Knockin and Kinnerley 4 v Bridgnorth 4, Oswestry 4 v Madeley 4, Ludlow 4 v Whitchurch 3.

Llanrhaeadr maintain their charge in title race

BOWLS by John Bridgwater

Andrew Riley and Derek Taylor both came through to eight.

At the other end of the table, Church B enhanced their hopes of escaping the drop with a welcome 7-3 (160-117) home success over Crifftins B.

Glenys Jones led the way to six, while Emrys Jones and Richard Adams both won to nine. Dave Poole had a 21-17 card for the Dudleston Heath visitors.

Lance Leonard (21-8) helped George to an 8-2 (152-118) home verdict against Play Kynaston A, with John Hughes (21-9) another good single figure winner.

Ellesmere A are 10 points adrift at the foot of the table after crashing 10-0 (168-89) away to Johnstown D, with Joy Payne com-

ing closest to a win when edged out 21-20.

Ye Olde Crofte B went down 8-2 (138-99) at Crifftins C who took charge with four single figure winners, the best of the night being Ross Rogers (21-4) and Terry Lewis (21-5). The pick of the replies was Steve Thomas who was a 21-5 victor.

Meanwhile, Aled Davies continued his fine form as Whittington A overcame lowly Church A 8-2 in division one, taking the aggregate by 44 shots (148-104).

Davies has now won 11 times this term to cement his place among the leaders in the first division averages, while Julian Turner and Melvyn Davies won to eight and nine respectively.

While Whittington are among the leading pack, Church remain rosted to the foot of the table following their latest setback, with Ron Crook (21-6) producing their best card of the night.

Andrew Jones was a 21-4 winner for Crifftins A, but his efforts

could not prevent a 7-3 home loss to high flying Ceiriog Valley A who took the shots by six (136-130).

Llanymynech A remain just above the basement places after going down 8-2 (162-122) away to Corwen A, with their replies coming courtesy of James Candlin (21-16) and Gill Dawes (21-16).

Chirk A succumbed 7-3 (148-125) away to Johnstown A while mid-table Flexsys A swamped struggling Cynwyd A 9-1 (164-93).

Results

Division three: Church Lions 9 (167) Ceiriog Valley B 1 (119), Chirk B 8 (157) Church C 2 (114), Bersham 6 (148) Ruabon B 4 (146), Whittington B 5 (145) Johnstown C 5 (143), Ceiriog Valley C 8 (141) Llanymynech Foxes 2 (89), Ifton 6 (147) Llangollen B 4 (133).

Division four: Weston Rhyn B 9 (164) Llanrhaeadr D 1 (103), Cynwyd B 8 (161) Whittington E 2 (127), Llanymynech B 9 (153) Overton A 1 (109), Llanrhaeadr C 6 (153) Llangynog C 4 (127), Llanfyllin A 2 (118) Crifftins D 8 (153), Ellesmere B 1 (99) Pentre Broughton 9 (165).

Division five: Johnstown E 10 (168) Weston Rhyn C 0 (102), Chirk C 8 (164) Plas Kynaston B 2 (114), Whittington C 9 (164) Ye Olde Crofte B 1 (104), Llanrhaeadr B 4 (137) Cynwyd C 6 (149), Crifftins E 3 (129) Corwen B 7 (139).

Division six: Weston Rhyn D 6 (153) Church E 4 (135), Church D 8 (151) Llanrhaeadr E 2 (107), Ruabon C 7 (148) Ponciau Park B 3 (112), Llanfyllin B 8 (147) Whittington D 2 (111), Overton B 5 (140) Chirk D 5 (127), Llangynog B 6 (137) Hampden Arms 4 (128).

Ifton are left frustrated by the weather

IFTON'S revival in the Salop Leisure Shropshire Premier Bowls League was halted when their home clash with Hanwood succumbed to the weather.

Looking to make it four straight wins, the St Martins side were frustrated when heavy rain left their green waterlogged.

They will be out to get back to action at Meole Brace on Friday night as they look to build on a string of impressive performances, the most recent their 11-5 (223-211) success away to lowly Chester Road.

Without any action last week, Ifton have slipped a couple of places to 10th while Meole Brace cemented seventh spot after their 10-6 (208-201) success away to Hanmer who are 15 points adrift at the roof of the table.

Newport remain top of the pile, eight points clear, courtesy of their 11-3 (212-165) win against visitors Chester Road, while Sir John Bayley are looking good in second after seeing off Bylet 10-4, taking the aggregate by 15 shots (203-188).

Castlefields are up to third position fter overcoming St Georges 10-4 (217-173) at home.

Friday night's fixtures: Bowring v Wrockwade Wood, Burway v Wern USC, Bylet v Newport, Chester Road v Castlefields, Hanwood v Sir John Bayley, Meole Brace v Ifton, St Georges v Hanmer.

■ It was almost all over before it started as Sir John Bayley stormed in the County Cup final at the expense of sorry Ifton.

Within minutes of the start on Old Shrewsbury No.2, the Wellington club established a vice-like grip on proceedings that they never looked like relinquishing, ending up with 11 winners out of 12 in a 75 shot romp.

Bayley will take on their Premier League title rivals Newport in the final on Saturday, August 11.

Saints win Memorial Trophy in goal feast

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

TWO late goals saw St Martins lift the Derek Stokes Memorial Trophy after a stirring final against Shropshire rivals Ellesmere Rangers at Park Hall.

The encounter proved a fitting tribute to Stokes, the club's popular club stalwart who died in January last year after 65 years service with the club on and off the pitch.

The outcome was in the balance before the Saints ran out 5-3 winners as Dave Easthope, with his second of the game, and Calum Bennett both found the net in the last 10 minutes.

After both sides had their chances, the hosts went ahead just inside the half hour when Dave Hartshorn played a free-kick to Jack Hughes who steered his shot into the net from the edge of the box.

That advantage lasted just two minutes before Rangers were back on terms through Cameron Davies, and that was how the scoring remained to half time.

The second period saw a flurry of action with St Martins restoring their lead on 52 minutes when Brendon Price played in Easthope to slot into the net.

They extended their advantage seven minutes later when Hartshorn's superb pass set up Shawn Melusi who squeezed the ball past the keeper at the near post.

Drama

Ellesmere were not finished, though, and roared back with two goals in as many minutes, the first when Luke Gibbs converted the rebound after an initial effort had struck the bar.

And moments later it was all square when the Saints were caught on the break after losing the ball from a free kick and Davies pounced for his second of the game.

The drama continued as the home side went ahead again 10 minutes from time courtesy of a terrific attacking move that saw Melusi square the ball for Easthope to finish with his second goal of the game.

And with the visitors pushing forward, victory was sealed six minutes later through Bennett who rounded off another flowing attacking move from the Saints.

Meanwhile, fellow North West Counties League side FC OSWESTRY Town went down 3-0 at to Welsh Premier visitors Newtown at Park Hall.

The Robins took the goals courtesy of three



Trophy time – St Martins captain James Durman with the Derek Stokes Memorial Trophy following his side's victory over Ellesmere Rangers

second half goals in seven minutes from Jay Denny, Nick Rushton and Sam Phillips, but Town could take plenty of positives from their performance.

A very entertaining game saw a youthful Oswestry dominate the first half, but missed chances left the scoreline goalless at the break.

The second half started evenly, but Newtown had the lion's share of the ball in the last 30 minutes as they made some telling substitutions.

With Oswestry's legs tiring, the visitors managed to score three goals in the last quarter, Denny getting the

first from close range on 67 minutes.

Phillips crossed for Rushton to make it 2-0 four minutes later and Phillips completed the scoring on 74 minutes with a strike from the edge of the box.

Llanrhaeadr, newly promoted to the Huws Gray Cymru Alliance this season, continued their preparations with a 4-1 home success against Wrexham side Queens Park.

Meanwhile, Welshpool Town ran out 6-2 winners at Snailbeach reserves for whom former player Adam Davies scored for the home side.

Local racers ride high in bid for honours

MOTORSPORT by James Driver-Fisher

a 750cc.

"By the end of the day I had secured three firsts in the 400cc Supersport and was third o

Will Bryant, 25, from Ruyton-XI-Towns, near Shrewsbury, also held on to his Pre Injection 700 class lead, in the N G Road Racing championship, despite admitting the round at Pembrey had been full of 'ups and downs'.

After enjoying a good test day in the sun, Bryant was hoping to put all the engine troubles that had plagued him at Snetterton behind him.

After qualifying pole position for race one, he crashed out after losing the front end while trying to reclaim first position, which meant he started from the back of the grid for Sunday's race, in 30th.

"I got my head down from the start and made up 10 places in the first lap and by the end of the race I finished three in class," said Bryant, who leads the championship by 13 points.

Meanwhile, Will Bryant's brother Tom, 28, who still recovering from a horror crash at Cadwell while racing with the Shrewsbury-based Hannafin Racing at Cadwell Park, said his recovery was going slow but he remained determined to be back the grid.

Passenger Tom, who was racing with driver Rupert Archer, 48, during round four of the British Sidecar championships when the crash left him with a broken vertebrae, whip lash and a broken jaw at the end of June, said the team had also been working hard to pinpoint the what had gone wrong.

He said: "It's been just two weeks now since the operation on my back and recovery is slow but very gradually improving.

Ellesmere march on with win on travels

IT'S as you were at the top of the Shropshire Cricket League second division after the two leading sides secured victories.

High-flying Ellesmere maintained their commanding 40-point advantage at the summit with a four wicket success over Shrewsbury III at the Unison Ground.

They restricted their hosts to 142 in the 38th over, Dillon Stone keeping the bowlers at bay with 61 while Bradley Chapman picked up 3-27. There were also two wickets apiece for Ashley Thomas (2-10) and Fraser Duncan (2-21).

The Meresiders made an uncertain start in reply, but got over the line thanks to Kieran Barry (23), skipper Tom Davies (21no) and Max Smith (19no).

Promotion rivals **MONTGOMERY**, in second spot, bounced back from their defeat the week before with a comfortable 96-run victory at lowly Wheaton Aston.

Tim Davies continued his good form with an unbeaten 65 to help Monty to 179-6 in their 40 overs after opting to bat first, skipper Aaron Ruff-Cock (60) playing his part at the other end in a key stand for the fourth wicket.

Edward Bennett (3-21) then put the skids under the hosts with three early wickets, Alex Bromley also finishing with 3-27 as Wheaton Aston were bowled out for 83.

ELLESMERE II lost ground in the 2nd XI League division three after suffering a tight 13-run defeat at home to their Albrighton counterparts.

Opener Steve Cowie's 91 helped Albrighton to a competitive 207-7 from their 40 overs, Laurence Ashley the pick of the bowlers with 4-32. Ellesmere made a good fist of things in reply with Ashley making 85 at the top of the order and captain Lee Davis 51 at three, but fell just short on 194-8.

Pool batsmen have that sinking feeling

CRICKET by John Bridgwater

WELSHPOOL slipped towards basement danger in the first division of the Shropshire Cricket League after being brushed aside by 10 wickets at the hands of Allscott.

Opting to bat first after winning the toss, Pool were soon in trouble before being shot out for a paltry 64 in the 26th over.

Joe Monk was the only batsman to get into double figures with 17 as Chris Starling picked up 4-8 and Jason Summers 3-11.

Allscott's openers had no problem in knocking off the runs in just 10 overs, Carl Starling finishing unbeaten on 30 and Andy Flann 22 not out.

Welshpool's second string were handed 24 points as struggling Corvedale conceded their clash in the 2nd XI League division three.

GUILDFIELD slumped to a 119-run defeat at mid Wales rivals Llanidloes to lose ground on the leading pack in division four.

Despite losing a couple of early wickets after being put in to bat, Llani recovered thanks to 89 from wily campaigner Adrian Foulkes, and an unbeaten 58 by Ethan Owen.

Skipper James Denham chipped in with 21 to help take the total to an imposing 227-4 off 40 overs, with Dave Court (2-25) and Gary Griffiths (2-33) sharing the wickets.

Llani's bowlers then got to work as a depleted Guilsfield were sent back for 108 in 27 overs in reply, with James Denham (3-26) doing the early damage before Will Denham (3-21) ripped out the middle order.

Chances

There was also a wicket apiece for Eogan Jones, Lewis Swallow and Dave Moody while spinner Foulkes made it a good day by taking 1-12 off five overs. Dave Court and Jordan Evans top scored for Guilsfield with 20 apiece.

KNOCKIN & KINNERLEY crashed to a 101-run loss to Alberbury to dent their chances in the Shropshire League division one.

Constant batting saw Alberbury post 209-6 in 45 overs, opener Charles Bourne top scoring on 46, while there were two wickets each for Jak Jones and Luke Beckett.

Knockin were soon on the back foot in reply and, despite 38 from Daniel Evans, they folded for 108 as Oliver Corbett took impressive figures of 4-6 from four overs.

Meanwhile, Knockin's third team slipped to a seven wicket defeat at home to Wem III in the 2nd XI League division one.

Batting first, they set a target of 198-7 in 40 overs, opener Joe Kynaston hitting 62 and Grant Tunnadine 68.

But Wem were up for the chase as they got home with two overs to spare, Steve Chandler leading the way on 70 not out and Oliver Cooper weighing in with 68.

Williams the winner at Llangollen



Sue Taylor, Oswestry League representative Tony Jones, and winner Brian Williams

TOP-FLIGHT experience paid off for Brian Williams as he came out on top of a fine field of 29 bowlers who contested the Oswestry League's Veterans Merit.

Williams, who bowls for First Division high-fliers Chirk AAA, beat Sue Taylor of Second Division Weston Rhyn 21-11 in the final at a sunny Llangollen RAFA

club. "A mix of recent past winners and finalists, newly eligible veterans and those who've competed for many years took part," said league competition organiser Trevor Roberts.

"The tricky green got faster throughout the day and it was no surprise to see the younger aged players get to the semi-fi-

nals when the temperature was very high. Then home bowlers Lil Blackshaw and Alex Brummell missed out on a final place, losing 21-15 to Sue Taylor and 21-18 to Brian Williams respectively.

"The early part of the final was even up to 11 across, then Brian found a tricky piece and ran out with 10 consecutive singles."

Oswestry checked in daunting run chase

CRICKET by John Bridgwater

The former Worcestershire batsman was at his best, and looked destined for a century before running himself out.

Charlie Hartley, the ex-Kent man, inflicted further damage with an undefeated 51 of 28 balls as Halesowen piled on the agony in posting a total of 352-5 off their 55 overs.

With veteran Ian Davies limping out of the Oswestry attack after just two overs, the visitors scored 196 runs in their last 20 overs.

Ritu Raj Singh finished with 2-76 with Warwick Fynn and Charlie Morris taking the other two wickets to fall.

Oswestry made a positive start, but once opener Joe Carrasco was caught behind off the bowling of Harry Kitchen for a highly impressive 89, the innings quickly dismantled.

The last seven wickets fell for just 29 runs with young Joss Kirk left stranded on 12 not out as Oswestry were bunted out for 178 in 45 overs.

Nine of their dismissals were to catches, the majority of which were in front of the wicket, as the pressure told of chasing a daunting total.

Warrick Fynn (29) and Robbie Clarke (21) were the only other men to reach double figures on the flattest of pitches. Kitchen finished with 7-51 and Kervezee 2-57, including the prized wicket of Fynn.

They now move into third place, 13 points ahead of the Morda Road men who drop to fourth in the table.

After the game, skipper Robbie Clarke acknowledged his side had had an "off day".

Stung by the defeat, Oswestry will be looking for a much improved display when they visit bottom of the table Wellington at Orleton Park on Saturday.

OSWESTRY II were downed by five wickets at their Smethwick counterparts in a low-scoring affair in the 2nd X League division two (north).

Their decision to bat first soon backfired as the border side were sent back for a meagre 86, the only resistance coming from Jonathan Davies who made 53 before being caught and bowled. There were four wickets apiece for Asad Khan and Mohammed Umar Sheikh.

Sam Davies then picked up 3-39 in Smethwick's reply, Chris Cathrall also taking 2-16, but it was not enough to spare Oswestry a five wicket loss.

Blackburn so close to Time Trial record time

SAM Blackburn led the way as round 11 of the Oswestry Paragon time trial series saw the reserve eight-mile Rednal course being called into action for the first time in three years.

With traffic lights between Whittington and Gobowen, the club switched to the shorter alternative with many of the 37 riders tackling it for the first time.

Paramount CRT rider Blackburn came home first in 17mins 47secs, missing out on Josh Williams' 2013 course record by 13 seconds.

Second place went to Nick Morgan of Hitchin Nomads CC in 18.09, with Dave Griffiths (18.20), riding for Clee Cycles and making a rare time trial appearance, taking third in 18.20 despite riding a standard road bike.

The only other rider to get under 19 minutes was James Bell of Graham Weigh RT who claimed fourth place in 18.38.

Ben Pierce of Mid Shropshire Wheelers was quickest junior when taking fifth place overall in 19.20.

Lee Williams was fastest of the Oswestry Paragon riders when clocking 19.47 on his first ride on the course which put him just ahead of another Mid Shropshire Wheelers junior James Satoor (19.50).

Simon Bromley, of Paramount CRT (19.52), managed to come home one second ahead of Oswestry's Jack Morris (19.53) to take eighth place, while 10th position went to another Paragon rider Rob Kerr who clocked 20.03.

Elsewhere, Liz Breeze was the only woman to take part crossing the line in 25.03.

Meanwhile, two Paragon members rode the SCCA/WCTTCA 100-mile time trial when the warm weather and rising wind made it tough going.

However, they both came home in under five hours, with Colin Lythe finishing in 4:53.29 and Helen Tudor in 4:59.40.

Defeat after Glas batting looks brittle

CAE GLAS continue to languish in the lower reaches of the Shropshire League division three after slipping to a six wicket defeat at Prees.

Put in to bat after losing the toss, the Glas toiled before being bowled out for a disappointing 89 in the 38th over.

Captain Peter Bowyer finished unbeaten on 23 on another tough day for the batsmen as Andy Darlington snapped up 4-9 off 6.1 overs.

Prees were made to work hard for the runs in reply against some tight bowling, but got home with Darlington completing a good day's work with an undefeated 32.

CAE GLAS II also suffered a defeat as they went down by four wickets to Allscott III at Gatacre in the 2nd XI league division three.

Marco Giannasi top scored on 22 as Glas were bowled out for 112 in the 37th over against some miserly bowling from the visitors.

Simon Dean took 2-16 in reply, but Allscott reached their target guided by Tim Clare who made 34 before being run out.

FRANKTON II succumbed by 18 runs to Wellington IV in their 2nd XI League division one clash at Hardwick Park.

Steve Lamb struck 71 and Simon Topper 41 not out as Wellington posted a useful 183-7 in 45 overs, Will James taking 3-40.

Tom Cockayne then hit 56 in reply, James Wigley also making 35, but Frankton fell just short when being dismissed for 165. Tom Anderson took 4-28 and Asad Sarfaraz 3-43.

Ladies sign off season with a win

ALREADY crowned champions, Oswestry Tennis Club's Ladies third team finished their triumphant season in the Shropshire League Division 5N in fine style with a comprehensive 4-0 win over Rowton Castle.

Both the first round rubbers started tentatively for the Oswestry side, but the first pair of Jo Dalietos and partner Carolyn Yates came through in straight sets 7-5, 6-2.

The second pair of Amanda Coxhead and Catherine Fern dropped the first set after losing a couple of critical points, but they took the second set to a tie break which they won 7-6 and then won the deciding third set tie break to take the rubber.

Leading 2-0 going into the reverse rubbers, it was all plain sailing with both pairs winning in straight sets 6-2, 6-3 and 6-1, 6-4 respectively to seal a four point success.

The team has dropped only five points all season and captain Linda Davies thanked all the ladies who had played their part in contributing to this excellent performance.

New teams in Monty League

FOUR new teams are set to join the JT Hughes Montgomeryshire Amateur League next season, taking the number up to 24 in the two divisions.

Llanwddyn hope to return after an absence of several years, while reserve teams for Llansantffraid Village, Waterloo Rovers and Four Crosses have also shown an interest.

However, the final make-ups of league one and league two have yet to be settled due to 10 teams currently in the top flight and 14 in the second.

Sport

Cricket
Pool get sinking feeling – P39

Football
Trophy joy for Saints – P38



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New Saints get second Euro chance

WHEN one door closes, another opens - that's the prospect when The New Saints embark on the Europa League in Thursday's home tie with Gibraltar outfit Lincoln Red Imps (7pm).

After their brave but early exit in the Champions League against KF Shkendija, the Saints now get another bite at the cherry as they gear up for more European action tonight.

Now it's the Europa League, and standing in their way in the second qualifying round first leg will be the Red Imps who famously defeated Celtic two years ago.

The tie won't be plain sailing, but the Welsh Premier champions can go into this evening's encounter in buoyant mood after staging a stirring fightback against Macedonians Shkendija.

Trailing 5-0 from the first leg, the tie looked dead and buried, but TNS almost pulled off a record breaking rescue act before falling just short to bow out 5-4 on aggregate.

And boss Scott Ruscoe will now want his side to reproduce that kind of performance as they look for a successful run in the Europa League.

"Last week was a fantastic performance, we controlled the game from start to finish, and had enough chances to have turned it around," said the manager.

"It was a first class response from the first leg when we did not perform, but the lads now have to go out there again and produce that level of performance.

"We're expecting a tough test against the Red Imps, we've done a lot of work on them, but if we play like we did last week, then it's a game we have every chance of winning."

While Shkendija looked all at sea on the 3G at Park Hall, tonight's visitors should have no such problems as they play on a similar surface in Gibraltar.

Founded in 1976, the part-timers have won 23 league titles as well as 18 Gibraltar League Senior Cup wins, 17 Rock Cup final victories and have 11 Pepe Reyes trophies to their name.

TNS, who are the only remaining Welsh Premier club in Europe, will play the return leg on The Rock in Gibraltar next Thursday.

Danes lined up for Europa League tie

SHOULD they overcome Lincoln Red Imps, The New Saints will be heading to either Denmark or Kazakhstan in the third qualifying round of the Europa League.

Lying in the wait will be losers of the forthcoming Champions League tie involving Midtjylland or Astana.

The Saints met Midtjylland seven years ago in the Europa League, losing 8-3 on aggregate to the Danish side.

The Europa League third qualifying round ties will be played on Thursday 9 and 16 August.

Goals, goals, goals in Memorial Trophy

A BUSY first week of the Graham Edwards Memorial Trophy saw a goal feast, with St Martins leading the way with a 5-2 victory over Guilsfield reserves in their opening Group B game.

Christian Wilkinson bagged a hat-trick with Jamie Dean and Sam Lewis getting the others, while Dan Pritchard and sub Dan Williams replied. Luke Francis also missed a penalty for the Guils.

In the other group game, Gobowen Celtic swept aside Llanfyllin 7-1, Finn Butler scoring twice along with Leigh Willis, George Morris, Louis

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

Morris, Nathan Martin and Ben Carter. Ben Garrett netted a consolation for Llanfyllin.

In Group A, St Martins Village defeated Llangollen reserves 5-1 with two goals apiece from Zak Ward and Lewis Jones, Harry Dunn getting the other.

Kinnerley edged out The New Saints under-19s 6-5 to go second in Gorup A, behind St Martins Village on goal difference.

In their next Group B game, Guilsfield reserves ran out 8-1 winners against Llanfyllin, Barry John Lloyd getting three of the goals and Calum Bromley a brace.

Gobowen Celtic made it two wins to top group B after overcoming local rivals St Martins 4-1 with two goals apiece from Ben Pierpoint and sub Tom Jones.

This week's fixtures

Group A: St Martins Village v The New Saints under-19s (Tuesday, July 24, 6.30); Kinnerley v Llangollen reserves (Thursday, July 26 6.30); **Group B:** St Martins v Llanfyllin Town (Sunday, July 29 2pm), Gobowen Celtic v Guilsfield reserves (Sunday July 29, 6.30).

Ellesmere's Johnson gets Welsh call

ELLESMERE College first team captain Morgan Johnson will represent Wales students in the four-nations rugby league tournament this month.

The talented half back and first team captain has earned his call-up to tackle Ireland, Scotland and England in their four-nations competition.

The Ellesmere College pupil, from Rhosesmor, north Wales, met up with the rest of the Welsh squad for a warm-up fixture against the Parachute Regiment - running out 22-18 winners on the night. Johnson has been a prominent player at the college since joining at the age of 13, playing both the 15-a-side and seven-a-side Union game.

This year, he has captained the 1st XV and seven-a-side teams, and has represented Shropshire, RGC North Wales at under-15 and under-16s, and North Mids at under-18s. He has previously been capped twice for Wales Rugby league at under 16 level.

Last year, he was selected for the Welsh Dragonhearts open age rugby league team at just 17 years of age and only missed out after his selection for the Commonwealth games nine-a-side Welsh team due to injury.

His latest call-up continues the school's tradition of producing international youth players but marks a divergence of their talent into the alternative code game.

A proud North Wales Crusader's RL reserve team coach Matt Robinson said: "Morgan has done himself, his family and the Crusaders club proud with this involvement and performances with the Wales students team.

"To have the opportunity to play for your country at any level is a huge honour and then to play against England in a prestigious tournament is a big bonus - especially at his young age."

Half back Johnson, 17, said: "I was thrilled to be selected and able to represent my country again.

Promoted sides to play in Welsh Cup

FOUR Crosses have been drawn at home to local rivals Waterloo Rovers in the first qualifying round of this season's JD Welsh Cup.

The tie, between two sides promoted from the Montgomeryshire League last season, will be played at Foxen Manor on Saturday, September 1.

Llansantffraid Village host Builth Wells in a tie that pairs together the two sides promoted to the Spar Mid Wales League division one.

Elsewhere, Abermule entertain Rhayader Town, Montgomery Town host Machynlleth, while Churchstoke travel to Dolgellau. A total of 92 clubs enter the competition at this stage, including south Wales side Penydarren BGC who remarkably reached the quarter finals last season before exiting the competition to Bangor City.

INDIAN PRO IS NOW A NO-GO

CRICKET by John Bridgwater

INDIAN all-rounder Ritu Raj Singh has dropped a bombshell by announcing he will be leaving Birmingham League club Oswestry at the end of the month.

The decision by this season's overseas professional to fly home early has come as a shock to the Morda Road club who now face a race against time if they are to bring in a replacement.

"Ritu has told us he must be back in India by August 1 owing to work and playing commitments," said club chairman Chris Wiseman.

"We're very disappointed, and as you expect it has not gone down too well. He is under contract to the end of the season, the club made a big outlay to bring him here, so we have been in touch with his agent about getting some compensation."

Fast medium pace bowler Singh - who is likely to play his last game against Wellington on Saturday - had offered to return in September to play in the league's final matches, but this was rejected.

Oswestry will take steps to secure an immediate replacement, but time is short with any new player having to be registered by July 31 under league regulations. The club cannot register any new overseas player.

Singh, who did not arrive in the country for the start of the season because of visa problems, has made nine appearances for the Morda Road side in division one.

He has taken 19 wickets at an average of 23.68 with a strike rate of 34.74, and his departure will be a loss after helping the side climb into the upper echelons of the table.

He is expected to play his last game on Saturday, when Oswestry look to return to winning form in their visit to division one rock bottom side Wellington at Orleton Park.

Town suffer first pre-season loss



Tussling for the ball at Park Hall are Town's Liam Parry (left) and Will Wells (centre). ■ Picture: Nick Evans-Jones.

AFTER recording pre-season wins against Llanfair United and Berriew, FC Oswestry Town slipped to a 3-0 loss against Newtown in their latest friendly.

There was little between the sides before the Robins struck three times in the space of seven

minutes midway through the second half.

Town, under new boss Matt Burton, continue their build-up with a friendly at Welsh Premier new boys Caernarfon Town on Saturday (4.30pm) before entertaining Gresford Athletic in their final friendly on Monday (7.30pm).

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